



MARVEL  
COMICS  
GROUP **12¢**

# the X-MEN

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

**9**  
JAN

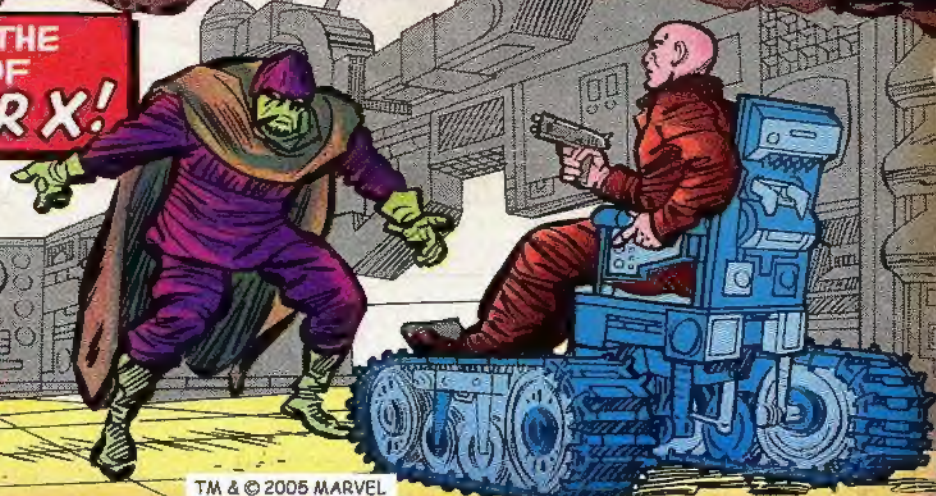
**GUEST-STARRING:  
THE MIGHTY  
AVENGERS**

**ANOTHER TRULY MARVEL-OUS  
STAR-STUDDED EPIC!!  
SEE THE DESPERATE X-MEN,  
TRAPPED IN THE HEART OF EUROPE!**



**DON'T MISS THE  
RETURN OF  
PROFESSOR X!**

**And WAIT TILL  
YOU MEET  
LUCIFER!**





Powerful 2-Band AM Shortwave Radio licensed by...



# WORLD-WIDE RECEPTION

GETS HUNDREDS  
OF SHORT-WAVE STATIONS!  
ULTRA-SENSITIVE  
FOR FRINGE AREA LISTENING!

AT AN AMAZING  
LOW PRICE

Your Cost Only:

**\$19<sup>95</sup>**

COMPLETE  
WITH EVERY  
FEATURE OF  
MUCH MORE  
EXPENSIVE  
RADIOS

Two bands—twice the listening pleasure! A mighty wife with a BIG voice—weighs slightly over one pound yet boasts a big 2½ by 3½ inch permanent dynamic oval speaker. 10 to 1 slide-rule tuning—this means you get better reception and more stations no matter where you live. 8 powerful transistors in RCA licensed

Superhet circuit. Three antennas—ferrite bar for broadcast band, 7-section telescope whip plus long distance cord for shortwave. (4 to 12 mc). Civil Defense frequencies indicated on dial for national emergency use. Operates hundreds of hours on 4 low cost penlite batteries (included).

Brings the world  
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Listen in  
on happenings  
in these  
far-away cities:

ROME  
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MEXICO CITY  
and many,  
many others.



YOU GET  
ALL THIS



4 PENLITE BATTERIES  
AND EARPHONE



GENUINE LEATHER CASE



2 BAND RADIO WITH  
DISTANCE ANTENNA

## MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

NIRESK INDUSTRIES, INC.  
Chicago, Illinois 60606 Dept. RD-1  
Kindly rush on MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE  
2 Band AM-Shortwave REALTONE Radio  
including Leather Case, Batteries and Private  
Earphone at \$19.95 each.

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## SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

This fine quality RealTone radio has been engineered for superior performance under all conditions. It is made of the finest materials and components. NO CHARGE will be made for replacement of parts or service within 90 days of date of purchase.

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**X-MEN**  
THE MOST UNUSUAL  
TEEN-AGERS OF ALL  
TIME!

# ENTER, THE AVENGERS!

FEATURING: THE EARTH-  
SHATTERING THREAT OF  
**LUCIFER!**

Whatever You Want In A  
Super-epic, This One's  
**GOT** It!!



SAVAGELY WRITTEN  
BY: **STAN LEE**

SUPREMELY DRAWN  
BY: **JACK KIRBY**

SUPERBLY INKED  
BY: **CHIC STONE**

STOICALLY LETTERED  
BY: **S. ROSEN**

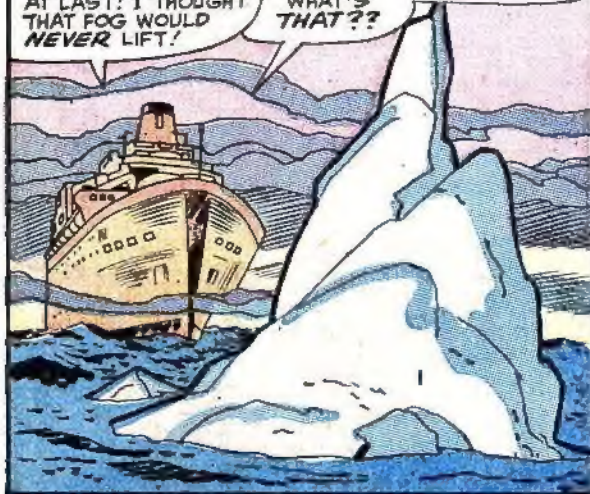
**MIGHTY MARVEL DOES IT AGAIN!!**



OUR STARTLING SAGA BEGINS IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC, AS A DANGEROUS ICEBERG SUDDENLY DRIFTS INTO THE PATH OF A SPEEDING SUPER-LINER...

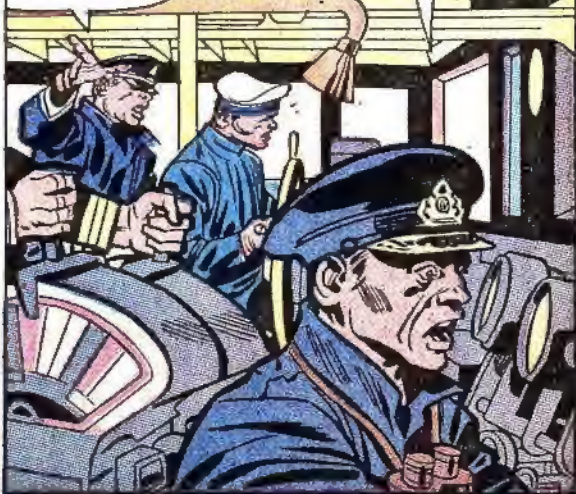
THERE'S THE SUN AT LAST! I THOUGHT THAT FOG WOULD NEVER LIFT!

BUT LOOK... STRAIGHT AHEAD OF US... WHAT'S THAT??

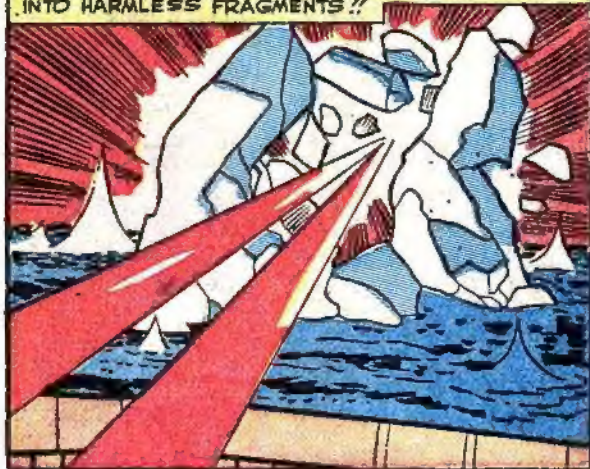


REVERSE ENGINES!! ICEBERG... DIRECTLY AHEAD!

TOO LATE!! WE CAN'T STOP IN TIME! SOUND THE ALARM! PREPARE FOR COLLISION!



BUT THEN, SECONDS BEFORE THE FATAL IMPACT, A BLINDING, SHATTERING, MYSTERIOUS TWIN-BEAM SHOTS OUT, BLASTING THE MIGHTY ICEBERG INTO HARMLESS FRAGMENTS!!



WHAT IN THE NAME OF CREATION WAS THAT??!

WHATEVER IT WAS, IT DESTROYED THE ICEBERG! THE SHIP, AND OUR PASSENGERS, ARE SAFE!



AND, OF ALL THE HUNDREDS ON BOARD, ONLY A HANDFUL KNOW WHAT REALLY SAVED THE MAJESTIC LINER! A HANDFUL OF THE MOST UNUSUAL TEEN-AGERS OF ALL TIME...!

SCOTT! IT WAS YOU WHO BLASTED THE ICEBERG! IT HAD TO BE! BUT...WHAT'S WRONG...?

TOO BIG A STRAIN! WEAK... EVERYTHING SPINNING AROUND...



EASY, SCOTTY! I'LL GET YOU TO YOUR STATE-ROOM IN TWO SHAKES!

EHMMPH!! LOOK AT THAT YOUNG MAN, MATILDA! HE SHOULD HAVE TAKEN SEASICK PILLS!

I DECLARE! THIS YOUNGER GENERATION JUST ISN'T AS HARDY AS WE WERE, SAMUEL!





MOMENTS LATER...

IT'S LUCKY FOR ME THAT EVERYONE WAS AT THE RAILING, LOOKING OUT TO SEA! SO THEY DIDN'T NOTICE WHO TRANSMITTED THE POWER BEAM, BOBBY!

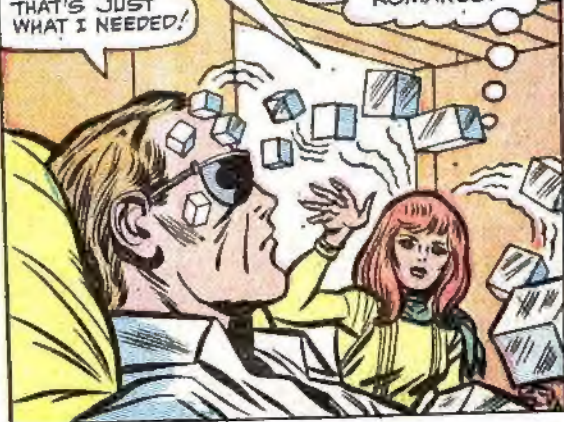
YOU'RE RIGHT, SCOTTY! THERE'D BE A PANIC ON BOARD IF FOLKS KNEW THE X-MEN WERE AMONG THEM! HERE, I'LL WHIP UP SOME ICE CUBES FOR YOU, LEADER MAN!



DON'T BOTHER GETTING AN ICE-PACK, BOBBY! I'LL COOL SCOTTY'S BROW WITH THEM TELEKINETICALLY!

THANKS, JEAN! THAT'S JUST WHAT I NEEDED!

OH, SCOTT! MY HEART JUST BREAKS WHEN I SEE YOU SO PALE, SO SHAKEN! IF ONLY I COULD COMFORT YOU WITH MY ARMS... MY LIPS... BUT I KNOW I MUSTN'T! AS OUR ACTING LEADER, YOU'VE NO TIME FOR THOUGHTS OF... ROMANCE!



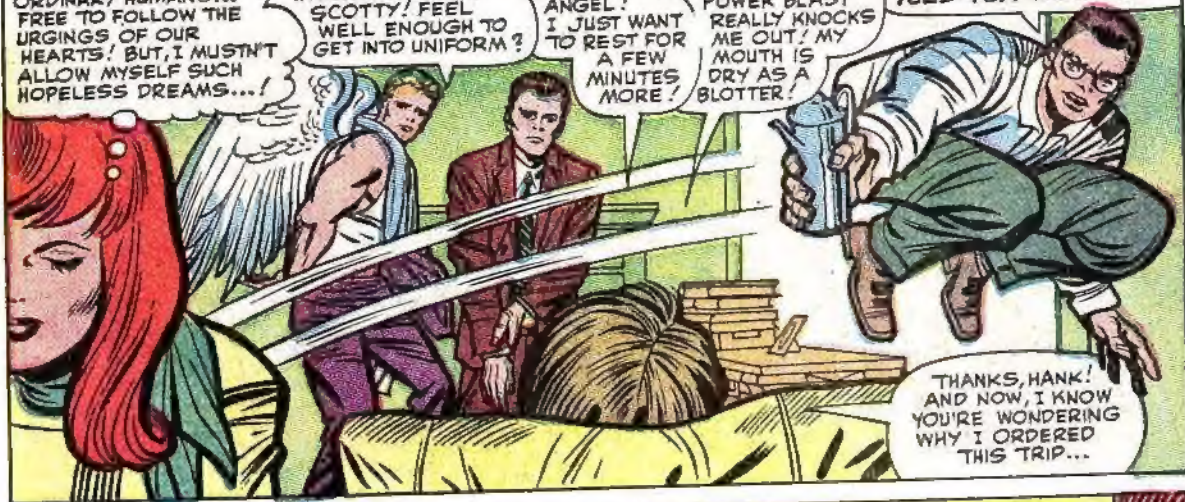
IF ONLY WE WERE ORDINARY HUMANS... FREE TO FOLLOW THE URGINGS OF OUR HEARTS! BUT, I MUSTN'T ALLOW MYSELF SUCH HOPELESS DREAMS...

WE'LL BE DOCKING IN EUROPE SOON, SCOTTY! FEEL WELL ENOUGH TO GET INTO UNIFORM?

SURE! I'LL BE FINE, ANGEL! I JUST WANT TO REST FOR A FEW MINUTES MORE!

USING A FULL-INTENSITY POWER BLAST REALLY KNOCKS ME OUT! MY MOUTH IS DRY AS A BLOTTER!

I'LL REMEDY THAT, BROTHER CYCLOPS! ONE ICED TEA COMING UP!



THANKS, HANK! AND NOW, I KNOW YOU'RE WONDERING WHY I ORDERED THIS TRIP...

PROFESSOR X CONTACTED ME LAST WEEK! HE SAID THERE WAS A MISSION FOR US IN EUROPE! IN FACT, I EXPECT FURTHER DETAILS FROM HIM ANY MINUTE!

I HAD A FEELING WE'D HEAR FROM THE PROF SOONER OR LATER!

ONE ICED TEA... COMPLIMENTS OF THE BENEVOLENT BEAST!

DON'T YOU EVER QUIT GRAND-STANDING, HANK?

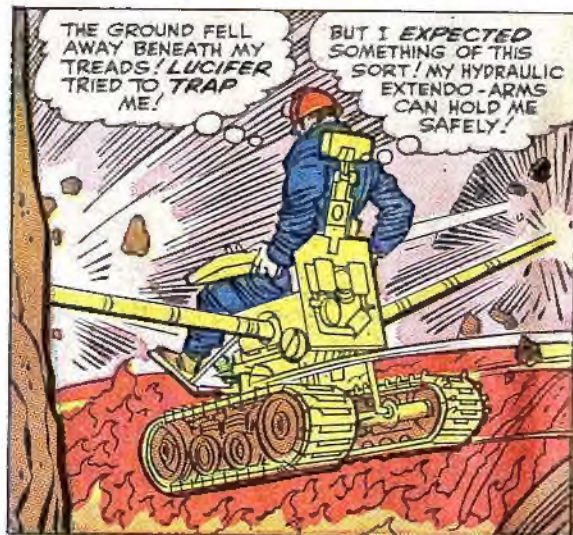


THEN, SUDDENLY, THE YOUTH KNOWN AS CYCLOPS RECEIVES A MENTAL IMAGE... TRANSMITTED BY THE MOST POWERFUL MUTANT BRAIN OF ALL TIME... !!

HOLD IT! BE SILENT, ALL OF YOU! THE PROFESSOR IS MAKING CONTACT AGAIN !!







CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



# The Merry Marvel Marching Society

THOUGHT WE'D NEVER DO IT, EH? WELL, HERE IT IS! AN HONEST-TO-GOSH FAR-OUT FAN CLUB IN THE MIXED-UP MARVEL MANNER! WE TRIED TO MAKE IT EXCITING ENOUGH TO PLEASE A YANCY STREETER, MERRY ENOUGH TO FORCE JONAH JAMESON TO CRACK A SMILE, AND DIFFERENT ENOUGH TO MAKE SUB-MARINER SEND US A DRIPPING-WET DOLLAR! SO, IF YOU WANT TO BE ABLE TO TELL YOUR GRANDCHILDREN THAT YOU WERE ONE OF THE FIRST TO JOIN, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? YOU MAY NEVER GET A CHANCE LIKE THIS AGAIN! (UNTIL NEXT ISH!) AND, FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO DON'T TRUST ANYBODY, LOOK! HERE'S WHAT YOU'LL GET...



A GIANT-SIZE M.M.M.S. MEMBERSHIP BUTTON IN DECORATOR COLORS! JUST THE THING TO COVER GRAY STAINS ON YOUR SUPER-HERO CAPE, AND DESIGNED TO LOOK GREAT WHEN WORN NEXT TO YOUR PHI BETA KAPPA KEY!

A WHOLE MESS OF ABSOLUTELY USE-LESS M.M.M.S. STICKERS WHICH YOU CAN PASTE ONTO YOUR BOOKCOVERS, ATTACHE CASE, OR THE HUBCAPS OF YOUR STING-RAY! (AND, FOR THE INGRATES WHO DON'T APPRECIATE US, WE HAVE SOME THAT READ "HELP STAMP OUT THE M.M.M.S.!")



WHEN OUR BULLPEN GANG DESIGNS A MEMBERSHIP CARD, WE DON'T KID AROUND! OUR "PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO MARVEL", WHICH YOU'LL FIND ON THE BACK, IS PROBABLY THE FUNNIEST THING SINCE THOR'S LAST CREW-CUT! NATURALLY, IT'S A GREAT STATUS SYMBOL, TOO! JUST WAVE IT AROUND NEXT TIME YOU'RE INVITED TO THE PENTAGON, AND WATCH THE TOP BRASS FLIP! (YOU MAY DISCOVER THAT THEY'RE MERRY MARCHERS, TOO!)

FOR THOSE OF YOU LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE FIVE FRANTIC FRIENDS, WE'RE GONNA BREAK OUR HEARTS AND OFFER A REAL BARGAIN! ALL SIX OF YOU CAN JOIN FOR ONLY FIVE DOLLARS! AND, BESIDES ALL THE JAZZ MENTIONED ABOVE, WE'LL DESIGNATE THE SIX OF YOU AS AN OFFICIAL M.M.M.S. LOCAL CHAPTER, AND SEND YOU THIS PRACTICALLY PRICELESS MARVEL CERTIFICATE! (IT'S FIVE TIMES THE SIZE YOU SEE HERE!) YOU CAN HANG IT ON YOUR CLUBHOUSE WALL, OR PUT IT SOMEWHERE TOO HIGH TO READ AND TELL EVERYBODY IT'S YOUR DIPLOMA FROM OXFORD! AND, OL' SMILING STAN LEE WILL PERSONALLY AUTOGRAPH EACH AND EVERY CERTIFICATE... JUST TO PROVE HE CAN WRITE!



## HERE'S THE GREATEST SURPRISE OF ALL!

YOU'RE GONNA RECEIVE A FRANKLY FABULOUS 33 1/3 R.P.M. RECORD WITH THE ACTUAL VOICES OF THE BULLPEN GANG CLOWNING AROUND AND WELCOMING YOU TO THE GOOD OL' M.M.M.S.! TALK ABOUT COLLECTOR'S ITEMS - YOU'LL NEVER WANT TO PART WITH IT!



MAKE OUT CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO: MARVEL COMICS GROUP! M.M.M.S. MARVEL COMICS GROUP 625 MADISON AVE. NEW YORK CITY, N.Y. 10022

(WRITE NICE AND NEAT! WE'LL AWARD A SPECIAL DE LUXE NO-PRIZE FOR THE BEST COUPON WE GET!)

HI, GANG! LET'S FACE IT! I'M A MARVEL MADMAN, TOO! HERE'S MY HARD-EARNED BUCK! NOW, THE LEAST YOU CAN DO IS RUSH ALL THOSE NUTTY GIZMOS REAL FAST, TO.....

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL, COLLEGE OR OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_ 'NUFF SAID!

AND WE WON'T FORGET YOU MERRY MARCHERS! IN THE MONTHS THAT FOLLOW THERE'LL BE MORE SURPRISES TO COME!



# GET AHEAD! Be an Auto Mechanic!

## New, Easy Way to Train at Home in Spare Time



### MANY STUDENTS EARN MONEY AS THEY TRAIN

CTI training often pays its own way. A surprising number of students report that they earn money in spare time. They fix cars for neighbors and fellow workers. Such work not only provides the student with cash, it also helps him acquire practical experience. Students are able to apply CTI training early in the course because the lessons are so practical.

### These Men Are Making Good

"Since starting my automotive course, I have worked on almost 50 different repair jobs, some including major overhaul."—Dale Grieser, Wisner, Neb. . . . "The auto course helps me in rebuilding engines. Also I am making more money that I ever did—have had two pay raises."—Frederick Rauland, Geneva, N. Y. . . . "I earn a good living and am getting much more work."—Angelo Carrieri, Altoona, Pa. . . . "Started with a Ford dealer soon after I earned my CTI diploma."—Robert Bloemcke, North Wales, Pennsylvania.

### Own a Repair Shop

Here is your opportunity to be your own boss, to become independent. Here also is opportunity to go on your own without a large investment. You can start in your own back yard, or in the garage, as some CTI students do. If you do repair work as you train, you may have a nice business under way by the time you graduate. Be your own boss!

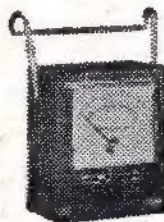
## 15 Kits of Tools and Testing Instruments to Help You Learn Fast — by Practicing



**MECHANIC'S TOOLS INCLUDING SOCKET SET AND TRAY**



**TORQUE WRENCH**



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**CAM ANGLE TACHOMETER**



**VACUUM GAUGE AND FUEL PUMP TESTER; COMPRESSION TESTER**



**STARTER CURRENT BATTERY CELL TESTER**



**POWER TIMING LIGHT**

Testing Instruments help locate engine and electrical system troubles quickly, save effort. You also get a set of mechanic's tools. Only CTI sends so much equipment.

### 30 Job Experience Projects Included

These projects help you bridge the gap between "lesson learning" and actual repairing. Included are such subjects as Spark Plug Troubleshooting, Distributor

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### MAIL COUPON TODAY FOR FREE BOOKLET

CTI training is waiting for you. So are dedicated instructors who will guide your training, help you if you need it. Get complete details: Clip out, fill out and mail the handy coupon. We will send you an opportunity booklet, as well as lesson samples. By reading the facts, you can determine for yourself whether you'd like to get into this highly-paid, secure field. Mail coupon today!

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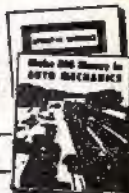
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Send me your opportunity booklet, Make Big Money in Auto Mechanics. Also Sample Lesson. Both FREE.

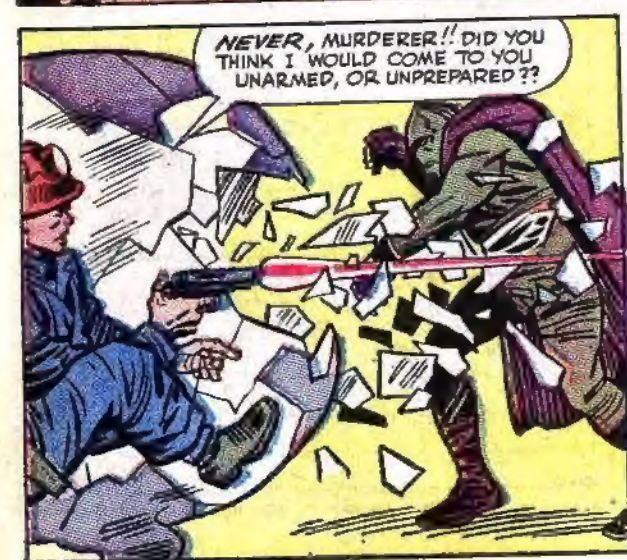
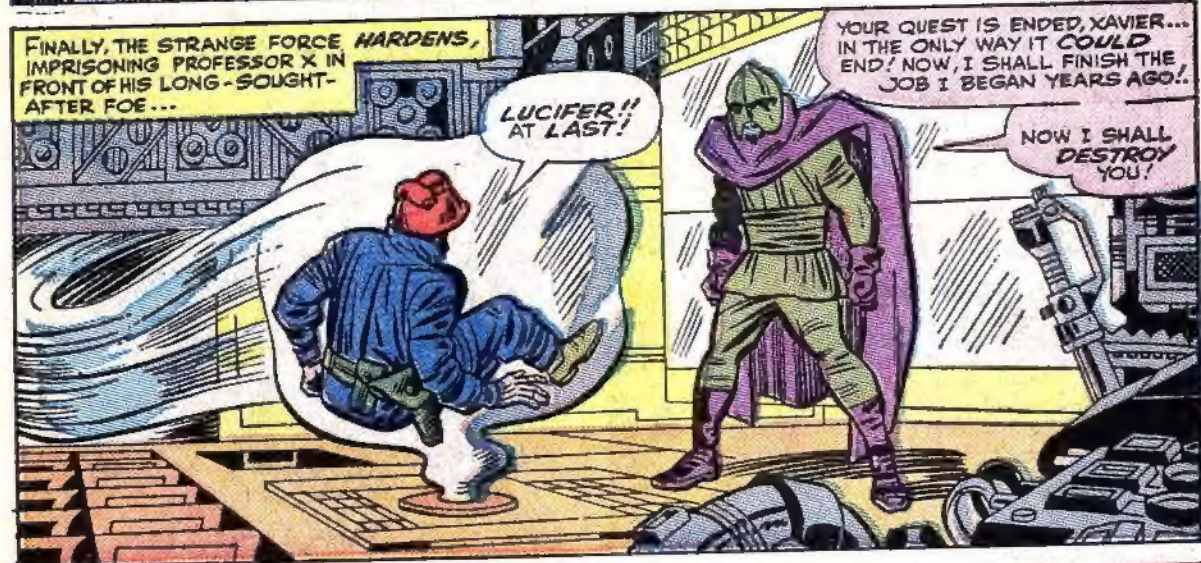
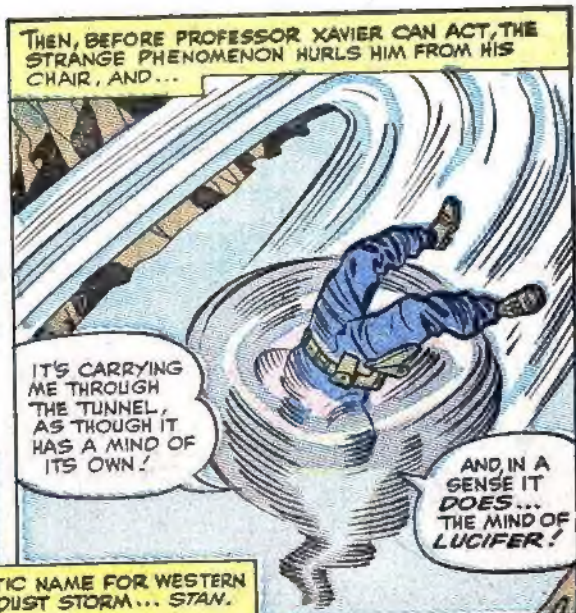
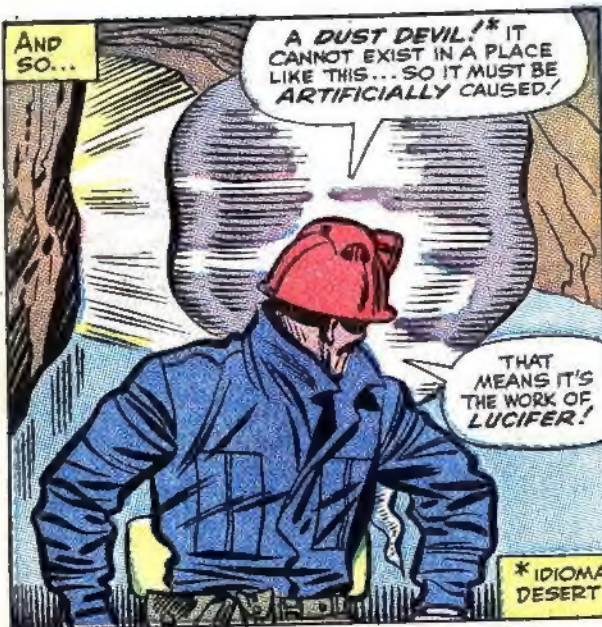
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_









BUT, LET US LEAVE THE TWO MIGHTY ANTAGONISTS FOR A MOMENT, AND TURN OUR ATTENTION TO A NEARBY BAVARIAN VILLAGE, WHERE WE FIND...

GEE, IT LOOKS SO PEACEFUL! IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT SOMEWHERE BENEATH US THE PROFESSOR IS BATTLING THAT LUCIFER CHARACTER!

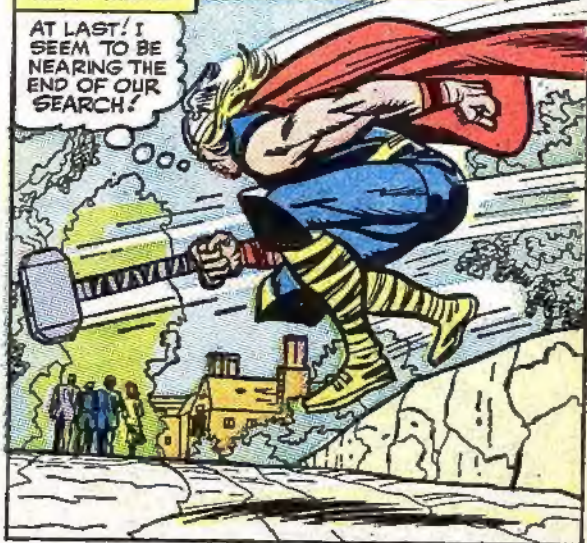
CAREFUL, BOBBY! DON'T MENTION ANY NAMES ALOUD!

WE'LL HAVE TO REMAIN ALERTED HERE UNTIL I RECEIVE FURTHER ORDERS FROM... X!



SUDDENLY, A POWERFUL, DRAMATIC FIGURE PLUMMETS DOWN FROM THE SKY, BEHIND THE X-MEN...

AT LAST! I SEEM TO BE NEARING THE END OF OUR SEARCH!



WHAT IS IT, THOR? WHY DID YOU STOP?

WE HAVE FOLLOWED THESE STRANGE IMPULSES ALL THE WAY FROM AMERICA... BUT NOW...

... MY HAMMER BEGINS TO QUIVER. OUR GOAL IS NEAR AT HAND!

WELL, IT'S ABOUT TIME!

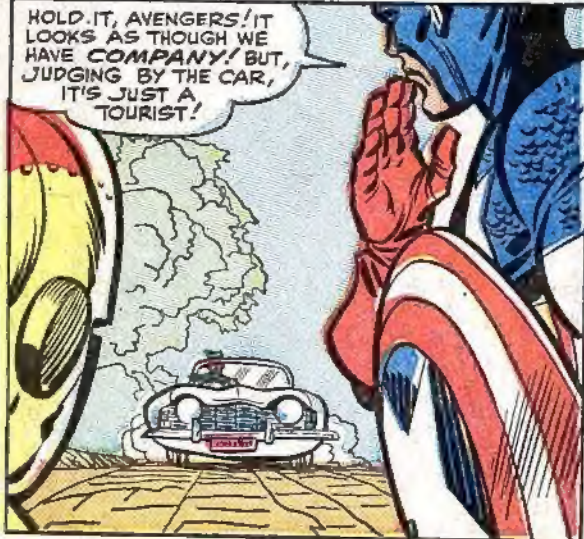


I HOPE THAT SO-CALLED ENCHANTED HAMMER OF YOURS HASN'T LED US ON A WILD GOOSE CHASE, PARTNER!

IMPOSSIBLE! THE IMPULSES WHICH IT DETECTED ARE SO EVIL... SO STRONG... THAT THEY MUST BE FOUND!



HOLD IT, AVENGERS! IT LOOKS AS THOUGH WE HAVE COMPANY! BUT, JUDGING BY THE CAR, IT'S JUST A TOURIST!

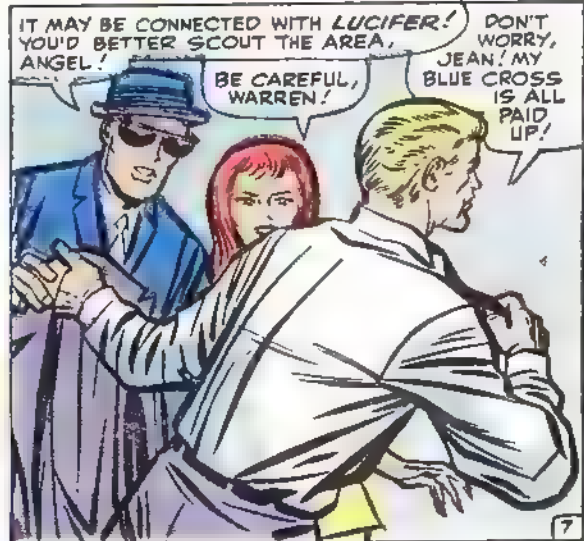
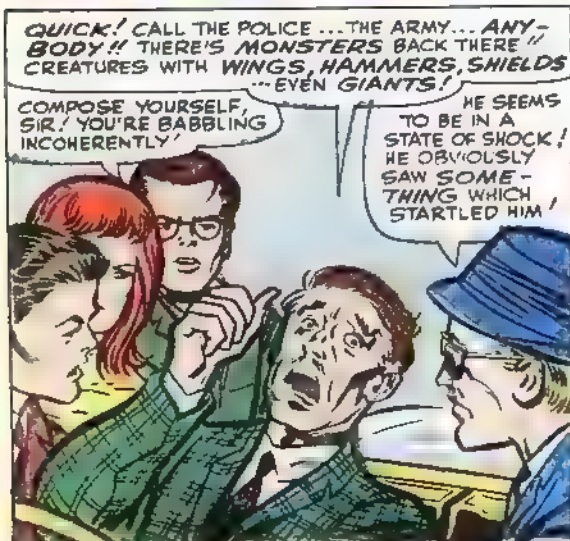
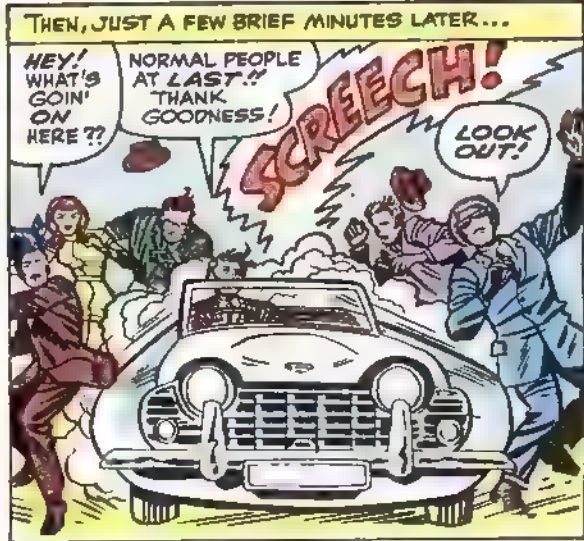
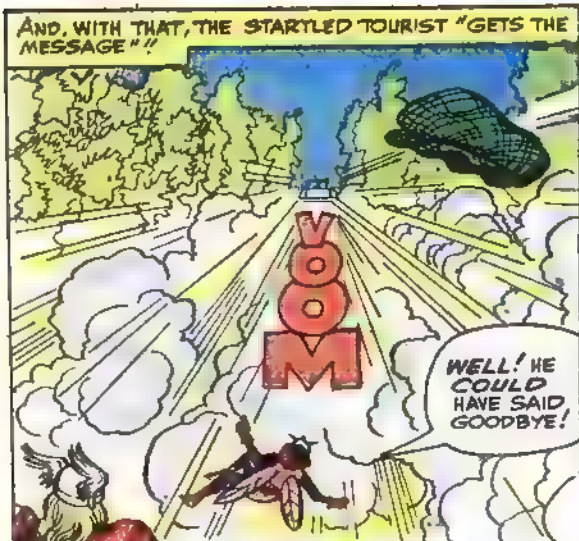
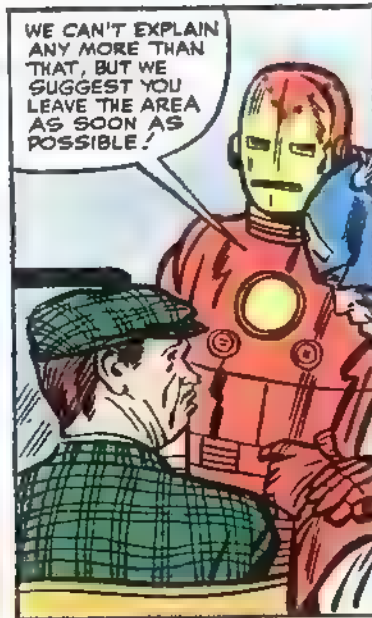
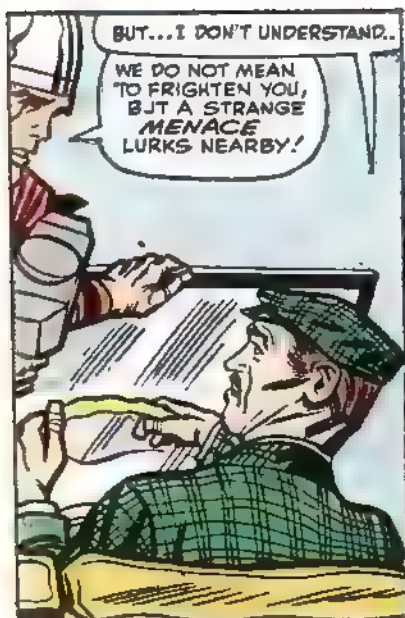


I SEEM TO HAVE LOST MY WAY! COULD YOU DIRECT ME TO... TO... ULP!?

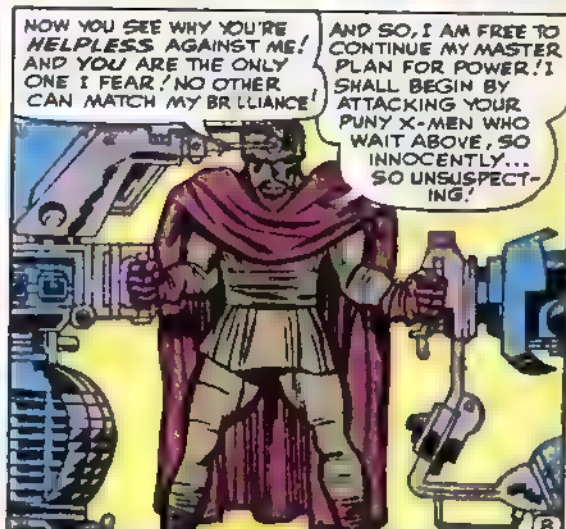
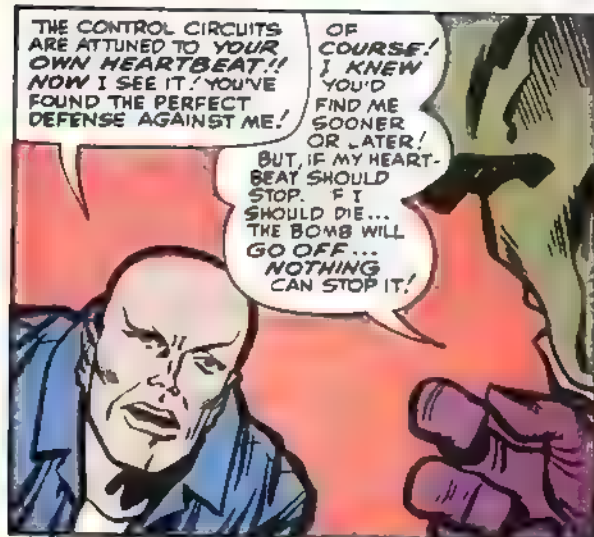
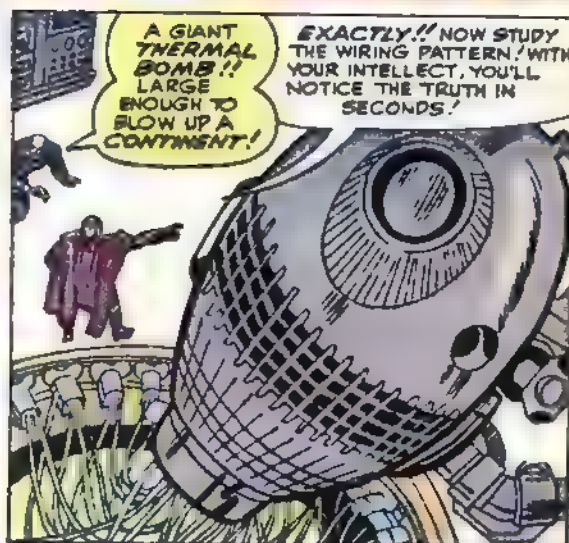
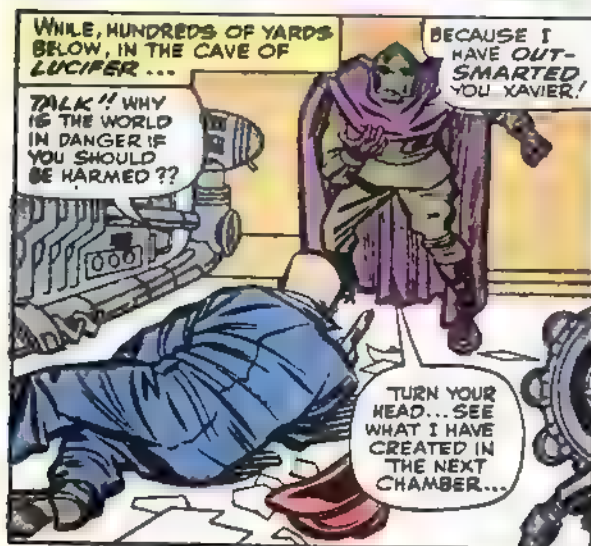
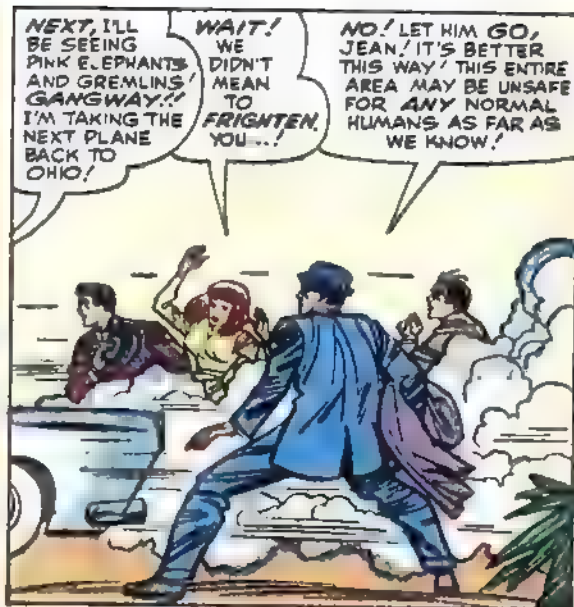
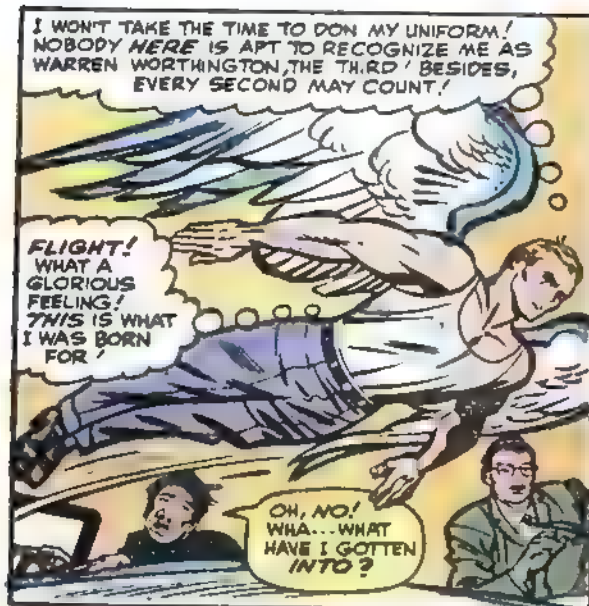
I SUGGEST YOU JUST KEEP GOING, FRIEND! THIS NEIGHBORHOOD MAY BECOME DANGEROUS BEFORE LONG!











CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



# Let A Panel Of Top Cartoonists Show YOU HOW TO BE A SUCCESSFUL COMIC ARTIST

AT HOME... IN YOUR SPARE TIME... AT LOW COST



Yes, in the privacy of your own home... at a fantastically low cost... YOU can start developing your hidden talents toward a real goal! If you have any feeling for art... if you like to draw... then a highly successful, well-paying career in Comic Art can be yours!

**AMAZING NEW METHOD...**  
**LET TOP PROFESSIONALS SHOW YOU HOW!**  
A skilled editor of thousands of Comic books has combined his talents with the artistic brilliance of a panel of big-name artists from EVERY FIELD OF COMIC ART. The result: A DYNAMIC NEW METHOD OF TEACHING! Now the experience and craftsmanship of these top-flight professionals has been condensed into a six-lesson course that can teach YOU to DRAW and SELL! A highly priced career is now within your grasp through this sensational, radically different Art Course. Your instructors are the artists who draw your Sunday funnies... your TV, movie, newspaper and comic book cartoons... and they ALL earn big money! You can, too!

**TRADE SECRETS NEVER BEFORE REVEALED**  
Now the success attained by this group of experts only after long years of struggle is handed to YOU! You will be taught to develop your natural artistic ability. You will be provided with inside trade secrets covering every phase of the business. You will receive exclusive information on rates... markets... how to prepare your samples... plus hundreds of other valuable tips.

**BIG DEMAND - TOP SALARIES**  
Successful Comic men and women are obtaining from \$8,000 to \$250,000 per year... and there are many free-lance cartoonists adding thousands of dollars to their income in their spare time. And the good keeps growing. Business and Industry... TV and Movies... Magazines and Newspapers... Advertising and Greeting Cards... ALL OF THEM BUY COMIC ART! So, start now on your way to the top in this fascinating and lucrative field. Send for Lesson Number One TODAY!

**THIS CERTIFICATE CAN BE YOURS**

When you have taken all six lessons of the ART DIRECTORS' COURSE, you will receive your CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION. This certificate shows that you now possess the vital knowledge that separates the amateur from the professional... knowledge that makes the difference between failure and success!

**NO CONTRACTS - NO SURRENDER**  
The cost of each lesson is only \$5.00. Unlike all the high-priced home-study courses requiring a long-term, non-cancelable contract, the ART DIRECTORS' COURSE is offered ONE LESSON AT A TIME! Simply send \$5.00 for Lesson Number One. If you wish to continue, you may order the succeeding five lessons at \$5.00 each. You are never under any obligation to continue... you may stop after any lesson. It's as simple... and safe... as this!

**HERE'S WHAT YOU WILL LEARN**  
The ART DIRECTORS' COURSE will teach you to draw from basic shapes in an easy-to-follow way. Everything you may ever be called upon to create as a professional is covered... the human body, clothing, backgrounds, cars, trains, airplanes, animals... and much, much more! You will discover which of the following is YOUR specialty.

MOVIE ANIMATION  
TV STORY BOARDS  
COMIC BOOKS  
COMIC STRIPS  
COMMERCIAL COMICS

SPORTS CARTOONS  
GAG CARTOONS  
EDITORIAL CARTOONS  
LETTERING  
COLORING

You will be shown where and how to sell your work with the aid of a complete listing of markets, including names, addresses and requirements.



**NO OBLIGATION - NO RISK  
MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE**

We are so convinced of the tremendous value of the ART DIRECTORS' COURSE that we are willing to stand behind the Course all the way! If you don't agree that the \$5.00 you spent for Lesson Number One is the best investment you ever made... you may return this lesson to us, and your money will be cheerfully refunded. (This guarantee is valid only if acted on within 10 days of purchase of Lesson Number One.)

Rush the coupon NOW... and start getting hundreds of dollars worth of instruction at this unbelievably low cost!

The Art Directors' Course, Dept. MB-12 (No C.O.D., please)  
P.O. Box 994, New Haven, Conn.

Please rush Lesson Number One.

Enclosed is \$5.00 in full payment.

☐ cash ☐ check ☐ money order

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (please print)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**NOW! Exciting TRIANGLE and DIAMOND SETS**

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**217 DIFFERENT STAMPS**

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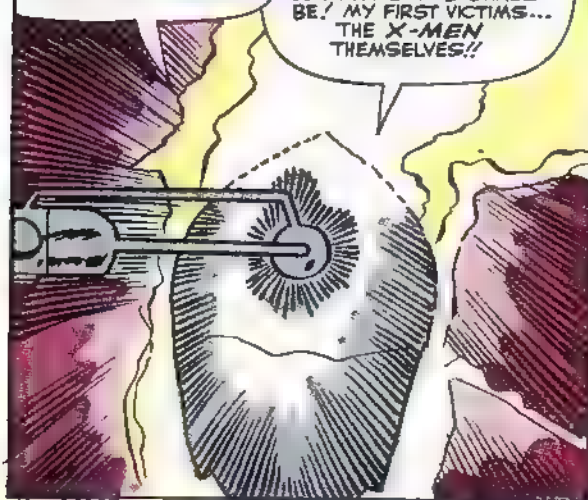
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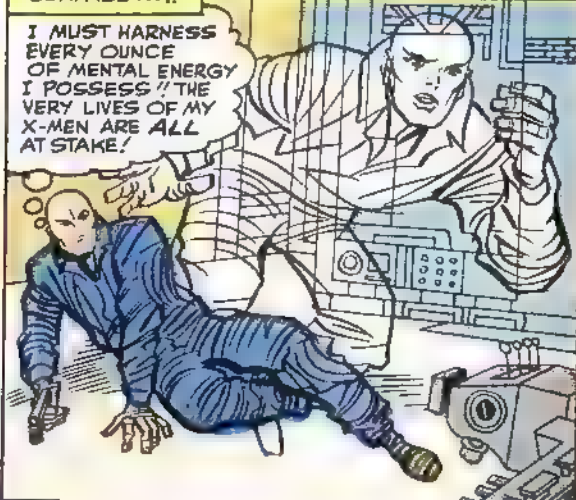
USING A MENTAL DIRECTIONAL IMPULSE, I SHALL HURL A DESTRUCTIVE IONIC RAY AT THEM!!

I HAVE WAITED FOR YEARS TO BEGIN MY ATTACK UPON HUMANITY! AND, WHAT A DRAMATIC BEGINNING THIS SHALL BE! MY FIRST VICTIMS... THE X-MEN THEMSELVES!!



BUT, THE MOST POWERFUL BRAIN ON EARTH IS NOT WITHOUT ITS OWN RESOURCES. IN THAT SAME SPLIT-SECOND, PROFESSOR X HURLS A MENTAL ILLUSORY FIGURE OF HIMSELF TOWARDS THE SURFACE...!!

I MUST HARNESS EVERY OUNCE OF MENTAL ENERGY I POSSESS!! THE VERY LIVES OF MY X-MEN ARE ALL AT STAKE!



ONLY PROFESSOR XAVIER, AND THE EVIL MUTANT KNOWN AS MAGNETO, HAVE THE POWER TO EXECUTE THE INCREDIBLE FEAT YOU SEE BEFORE YOU! BUT ONLY THE SUPREMELY GIFTED XAVIER CAN PROJECT HIS MENTAL IMAGE FAST ENOUGH TO EXCEED THE SPEED OF LUCIFER'S IONIC RAY...!

I'M GAINING! IF I CAN JUST MAINTAIN THIS PACE!



AND THEN, THE PROFESSOR SENDS A WARNING THOUGHT SPEEDING AHEAD OF HIS OWN IMAGE...!

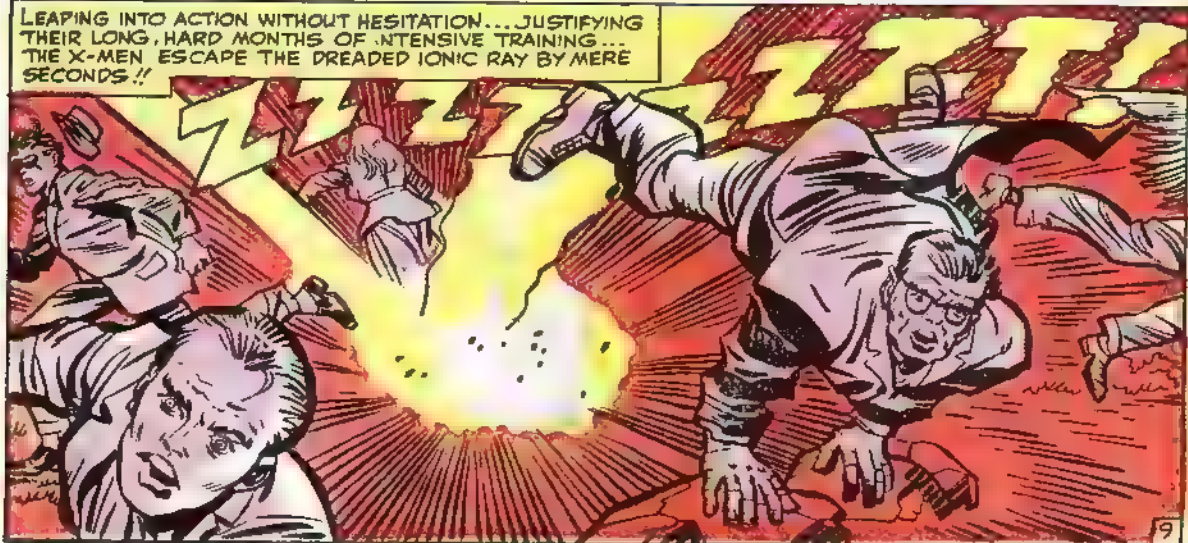
DANGER, MY X-MEN!! SCATTER! DISPERSE!!



IT'S THE PROFESSOR! RUN!!

YOU HEARD THE MAN!!

LEAPING INTO ACTION WITHOUT HESITATION... JUSTIFYING THEIR LONG, HARD MONTHS OF INTENSIVE TRAINING... THE X-MEN ESCAPE THE DREADED IONIC RAY BY MERÉ SECONDS!!





ITS MISSION SUCCESSFUL, THE PROFESSOR'S MENTAL IMAGE FADES INTO NOTHINGNESS. AS THE INTREPID BAND OF TEEN-AGERS NOW GIRD THEMSELVES FOR BATTLE...!!

NO NEED FOR CIVILIAN GARB NOW! THE PRETENSE HAS ENDED! THE PRELUDE IS OVER!

..AND NOW, THE CURTAIN RISES ON ACT ONE! THE STAGE IS SET... THE CAST IS ASSEMBLED!...

..AND, UNLESS I AM GRIEVOUSLY MISTAKEN, THE **BEAST** IS DESTINED TO PLAY A STELLAR ROLE!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT DANGER THREATENS THE PROFESSOR...OR US! I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO LUCIFER IS!!

ALL THAT I **DO** KNOW IS THAT THE X-MEN ARE NEEDED...!

AND THAT'S ENOUGH FOR ICEMAN!!

MARVEL GIRL REPORTING, CYCLOPS! WHY, WHAT'S WRONG??

LOOK OUT, YOU'LL STUMBLE INTO THAT HOLE IN FRONT OF YOU!

THERE'S NOT ENOUGH TIME TO SIDE-STEP!!

BUT, BY TELEKINETICALLY PUTTING THAT LOG OVER IT, I CAN STEP DOWN IN SAFETY!!

WELL DONE, MARVEL GIRL!!

THAT THOUGHT! IT'S THE PROFESSOR!

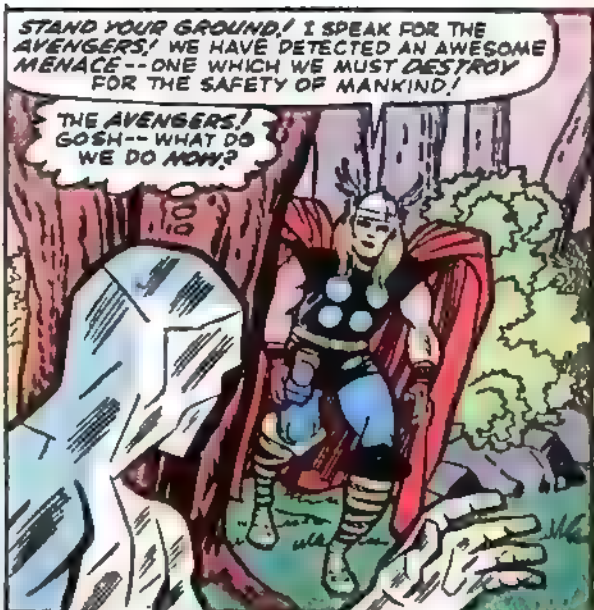




I MUST WARN YOU! IF YOU ENCOUNTER LUCIFER-- DEFEND YOURSELVES WITH ALL YOUR POWER, BUT-- HE MUST NOT BE SLAIN-- NOR EVEN PHYSICALLY HARMED! NO TIME FOR FURTHER EXPLANATION--

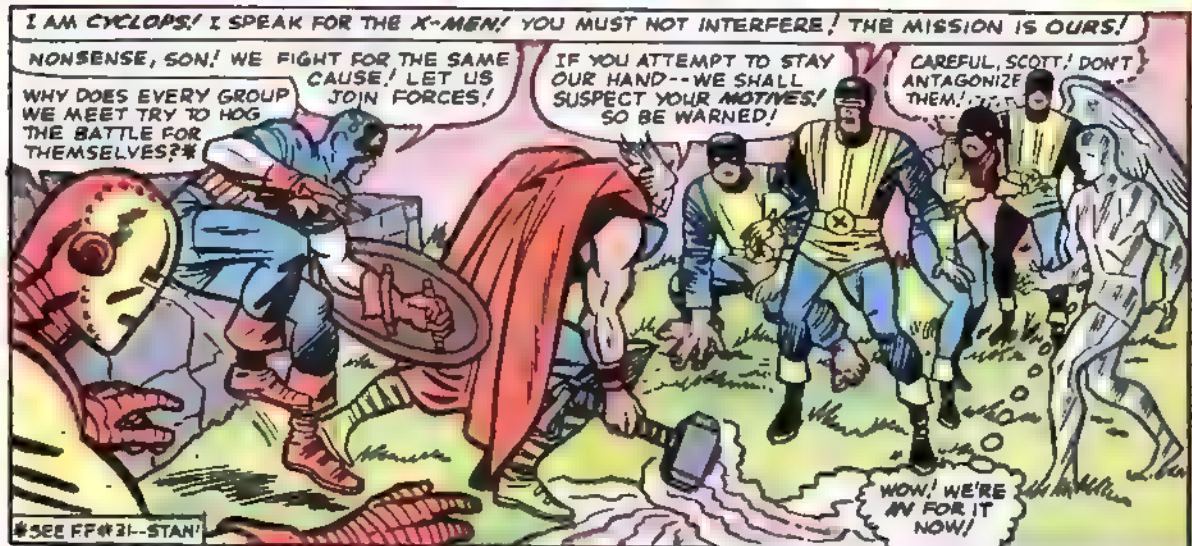
BUT KNOW THIS-- IF ANYTHING AFFECTS LUCIFER'S HEARTBEAT, ALL OF EARTH MAY BE IN PERIL! AND NOW-- BEHIND YOU! I SENSE MORE DANGER!

GOSH! NOW WHAT --??



STAND YOUR GROUND! I SPEAK FOR THE AVENGERS! WE HAVE DETECTED AN AWESOME MENACE-- ONE WHICH WE MUST DESTROY FOR THE SAFETY OF MANKIND!

THE AVENGERS! GOSH-- WHAT DO WE DO NOW?



I AM CYCLOPS! I SPEAK FOR THE X-MEN! YOU MUST NOT INTERFERE! THE MISSION IS OURS!

NONSENSE, SON! WE FIGHT FOR THE SAME CAUSE! LET US JOIN FORCES!

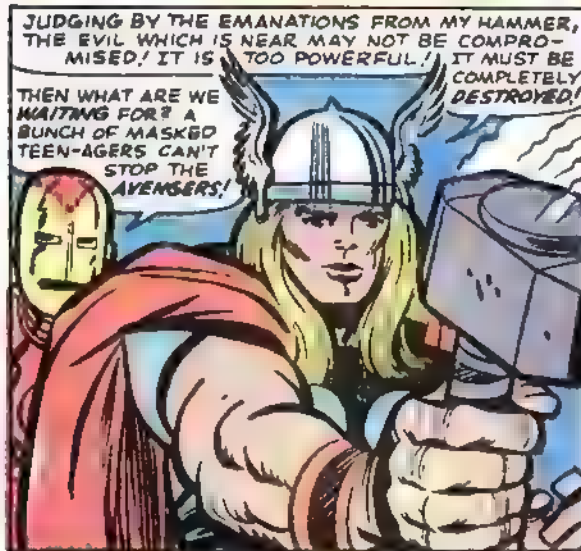
IF YOU ATTEMPT TO STAY OUR HAND-- WE SHALL SUSPECT YOUR MOTIVES! SO BE WARNED!

CAREFUL, SCOTT! DON'T ANTAGONIZE THEM!

WHY DOES EVERY GROUP WE MEET TRY TO HOG THE BATTLE FOR THEMSELVES??

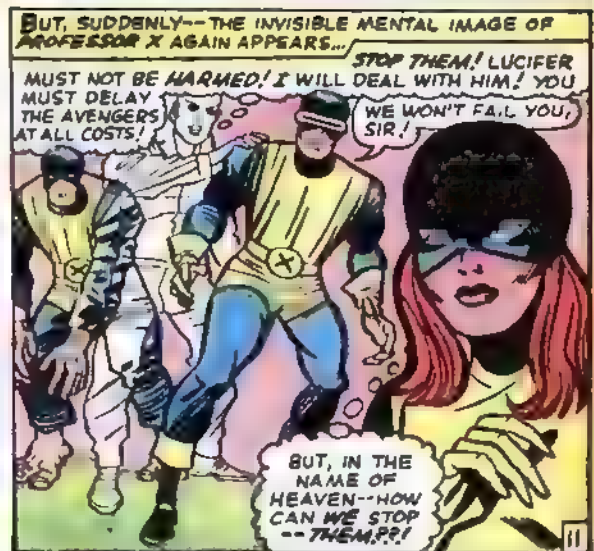
WOW! WE'RE IN FOR IT NOW!

#SEE FF#31-STAN!



JUDGING BY THE EMANATIONS FROM MY HAMMER, THE EVIL WHICH IS NEAR MAY NOT BE COMPROMISED! IT IS TOO POWERFUL! IT MUST BE COMPLETELY DESTROYED!

THEN WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? A BUNCH OF MASKED TEEN-AGERS CAN'T STOP THE AVENGERS!



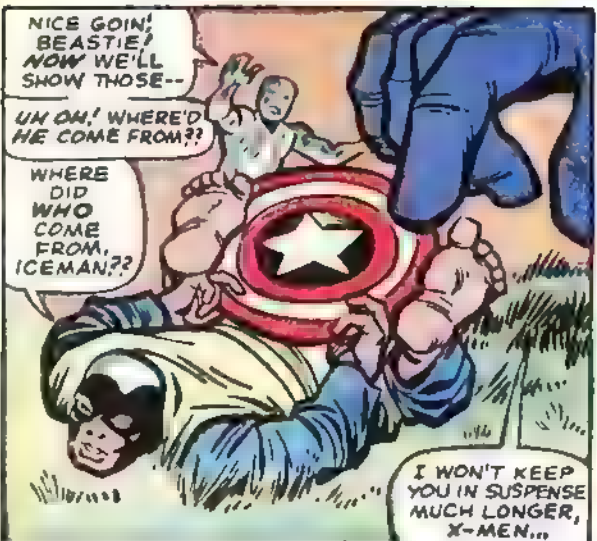
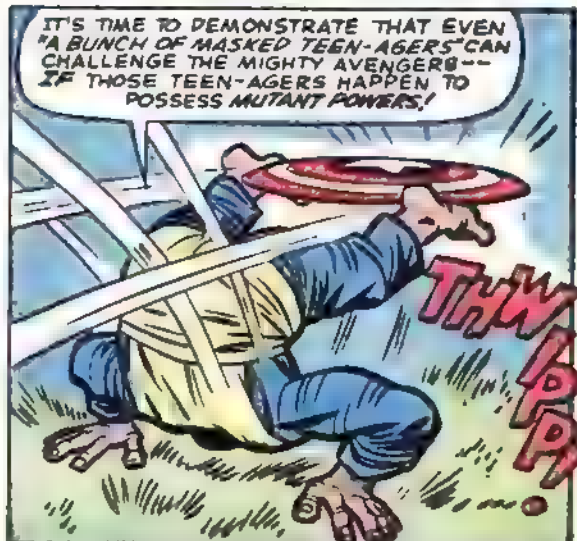
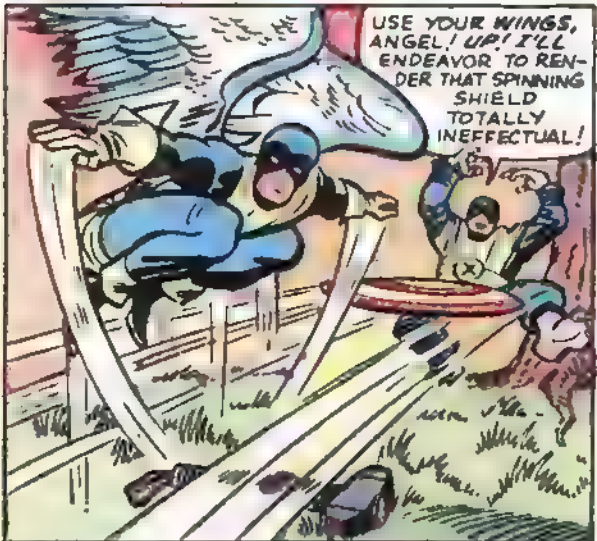
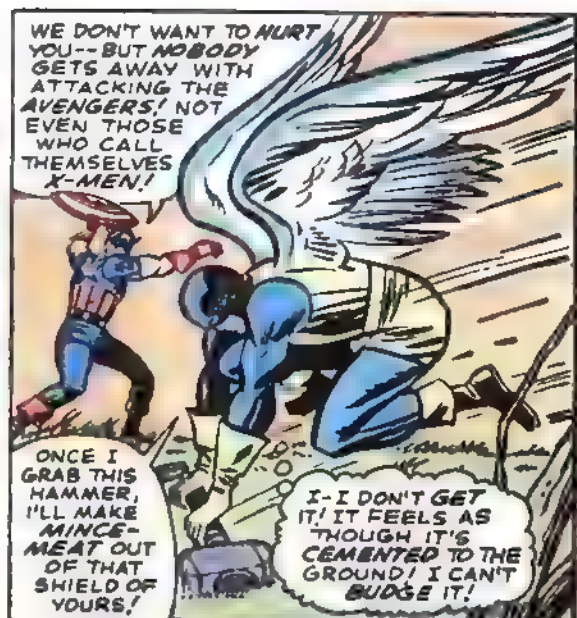
BUT, SUDDENLY-- THE INVISIBLE MENTAL IMAGE OF PROFESSOR X AGAIN APPEARS...

MUST NOT BE HARMED! I WILL DEAL WITH HIM! YOU MUST DELAY THE AVENGERS AT ALL COSTS!

STOP THEM! LUCIFER MUST DELAY THE AVENGERS WITH HIM! YOU WE WON'T FAIL YOU, SIR!

BUT, IN THE NAME OF HEAVEN-- HOW CAN WE STOP -- THEM??!









SAVE YOUR FLOWERY PHRASES FOR SOMEONE WHO'LL BE MORE IMPRESSED, SON! I HOLD A FEW COLLEGE DEGREES MYSELF!

NOW, GO SWALLOW ANOTHER DICTIONARY SOMEWHERE WHILE I ATTEND TO MORE URGENT MATTERS!

RELAX, YOU WORD-SLINGING WONDER! I'LL STOP YOU FROM FALLING!

A MOST OPPORTUNE GESTURE, BUT I SUGGEST YOU DIVERT YOUR ATTENTION TO THE WASP WHO SEEMS TO HAVE YOU IN HER SIGHTS!

HERE'S A QUICK FREEZING ICY SWEATSHIRT FOR YOU, STRETCH! THIS'LL CRAMP YOUR STYLE REAL GOOD!

I HATE TO ATTACK THAT YOUNG ICEMAN-- BUT I MAY HAVE TO!

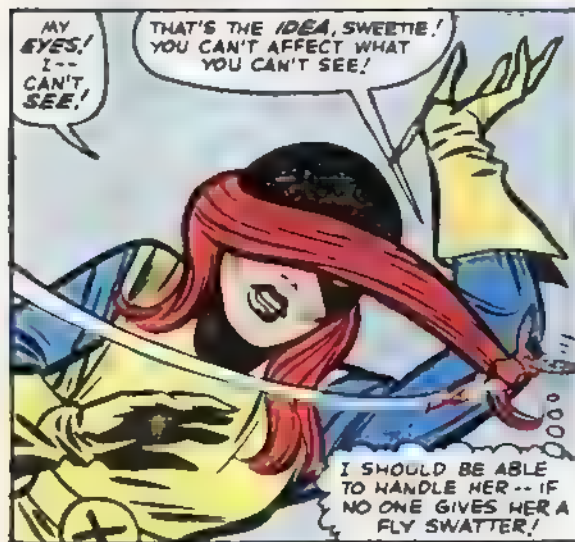
IF I CAN JUST REACH THAT TITIAN-HAIRED TIGRESS IN TIME--!

PUT ME DOWN, AVENGER! I WARN YOU--!

YOUNG FELLA, I HAVE A COLLECTION OF "WARNINGS" THAT WOULD MAKE YOUR EYES POP!

PERHAPS SO! BUT I'M KEEPING YOU TOO BUSY TO ATTACK ANY OTHER X-MEN!

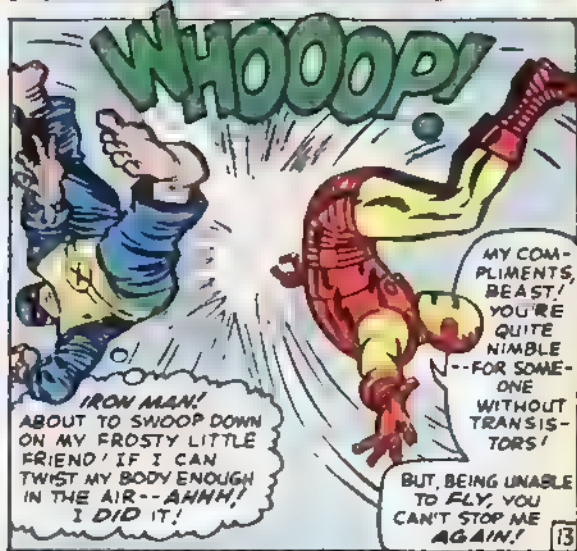
STAY YOUR HAND, WINGED ONE! YOUR MORTAL BLOWS ARE BUT FEATHER TOUCHES TO THOR!



MY EYES! I-- CAN'T SEE!

THAT'S THE IDEA, SWEETIE! YOU CAN'T AFFECT WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE!

I SHOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE HER-- IF NO ONE GIVES HER A FLY SWATTER!



IRON MAN! ABOUT TO SWOOP DOWN ON MY FROSTY LITTLE FRIEND! IF I CAN TWIST MY BODY ENOUGH IN THE AIR-- AHHH! I DID IT!

MY COMPLIMENTS, BEAST! YOU'RE QUITE NIMBLE--FOR SOMEONE WITHOUT TRANSISTORS!

BUT, BEING UNABLE TO FLY, YOU CAN'T STOP ME AGAIN!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE





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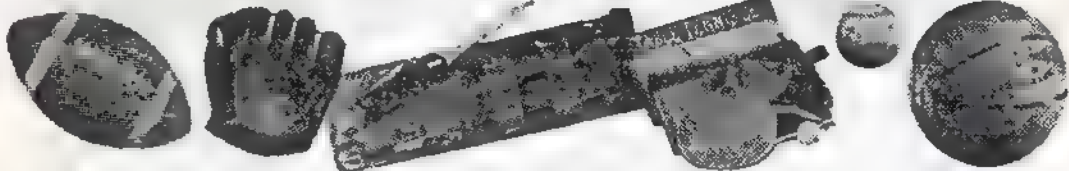
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MEANTIME, HAVING DONE ALL HE CAN ON THE SURFACE, PROFESSOR X ONCE AGAIN TURNS HIS FULL ATTENTION TO THE DEADLY FOE WHO STANDS BEFORE A WIRELESS VIDEO-VIEWER...

YOUR X-MEN ARE KEEPING THE AVENGERS FROM ME! A VERY WISE MOVE ON THEIR PART!



AND NOW THAT I HAVE YOU CRINGING HELPLESSLY BEFORE ME, I SHALL WIN MY GREATEST VICTORY! YOUR TIME HAS COME, XAVIER!

THERE IS NO PHYSICAL FORCE I CAN USE-- OR WOULD DARE TO USE AGAINST HIM!!!



BUT, MY GREATEST POWER HAS EVER BEEN THE POWER OF--MY BRAIN!

AND THIS WILL BE MY MOST DIFFICULT TASK!

I MUST NARROW A MENTAL SHOCK WAVE ENOUGH TO STUN HIM WITHOUT INJURING HIM IN ANY WAY!



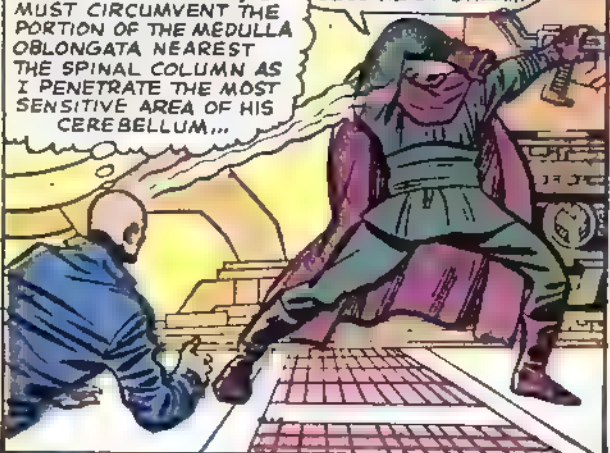
ONLY A KNOWLEDGEABLE BRAIN SURGEON COULD APPRECIATE THE DELICACY OF MY TASK! AND EVEN HE WOULD NEVER BELIEVE SUCH A MENTAL FEAT IS POSSIBLE!

GENTLY--GENTLY--! ONE HAIR-BREADTH ERROR CAN STILL HIS HEART!



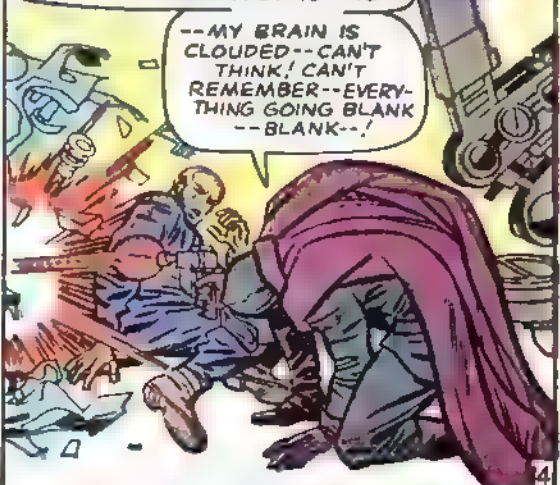
IN MY MIND'S EYE, I SEE HIS BRAIN AS CLEARLY AS A TRAVELLER READS A ROAD MAP! I MUST CIRCUMVENT THE PORTION OF THE MEDULLA OBLONGATA NEAREST THE SPINAL COLUMN AS I PENETRATE THE MOST SENSITIVE AREA OF HIS CEREBELLUM...

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO ME?? WHY HAVE MY MOVEMENTS BECOME SO STIFF...?

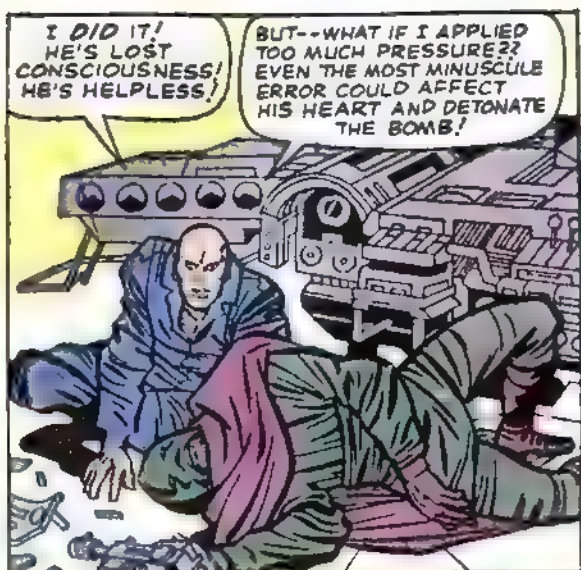


NO MATTER! IT WILL TAKE BUT ONE SHOT TO--TO--

--MY BRAIN IS CLOUDED--CAN'T THINK! CAN'T REMEMBER--EVERYTHING GOING BLANK--BLANK--!







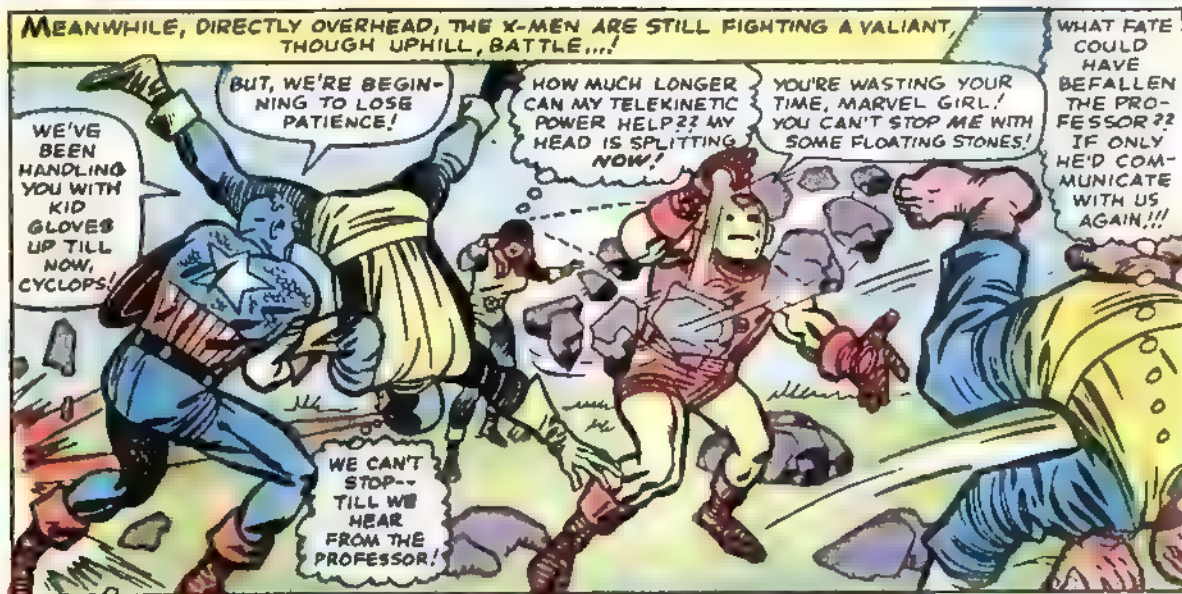
I DID IT!  
HE'S LOST  
CONSCIOUSNESS!  
HE'S HELPLESS!

BUT--WHAT IF I APPLIED  
TOO MUCH PRESSURE??  
EVEN THE MOST MINUSCULE  
ERROR COULD AFFECT  
HIS HEART AND DETONATE  
THE BOMB!



HIS HEARTBEAT SEEMS  
REGULAR-- BUT I AM NO  
PHYSICIAN! I CANNOT  
BE CERTAIN! AT LEAST  
--HE STILL LIVES!

IF ONLY I COULD  
FIND A WAY TO  
REMOVE THE BOMB'S  
FUSE WHILE HE IS  
HELPLESS! BUT FOR  
SUCH A TASK, I NEED  
MY X-MEN'S  
ASSISTANCE...



MEANWHILE, DIRECTLY OVERHEAD, THE X-MEN ARE STILL FIGHTING A VALIANT,  
THOUGH UPHILL, BATTLE...

WE'VE  
BEEN  
HANDLING  
YOU WITH  
KID  
GLOVES  
UP TILL  
NOW,  
CYCLOPS!

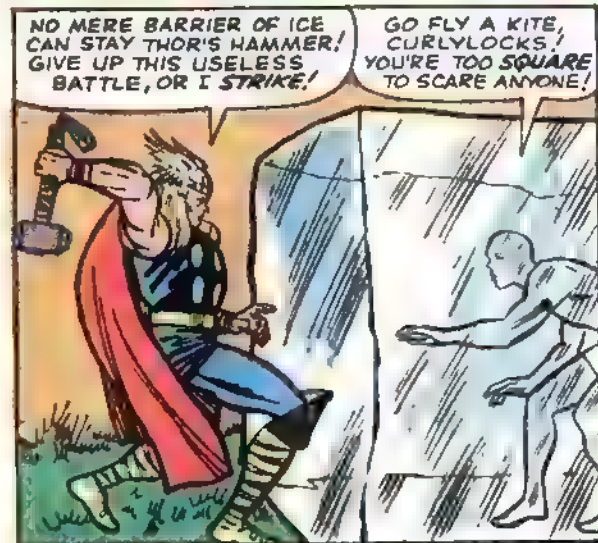
BUT, WE'RE BEGIN-  
NING TO LOSE  
PATIENCE!

HOW MUCH LONGER  
CAN MY TELEKINETIC  
POWER HELP?? MY  
HEAD IS SPLITTING  
NOW!

YOU'RE WASTING YOUR  
TIME, MARVEL GIRL!  
YOU CAN'T STOP ME WITH  
SOME FLOATING STONES!

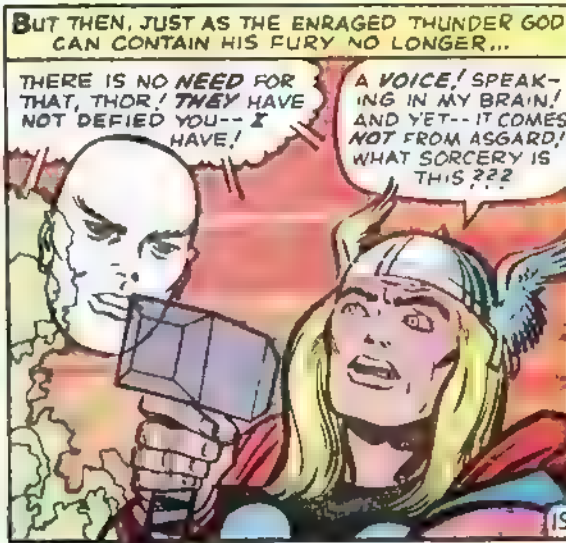
WHAT FATE  
COULD  
HAVE  
BEFALLEN  
THE PRO-  
FESSOR??  
IF ONLY  
HE'D COM-  
MUNICATE  
WITH US  
AGAIN!!!

WE CAN'T  
STOP--  
TILL WE  
HEAR  
FROM THE  
PROFESSOR!



NO MERE BARRIER OF ICE  
CAN STAY THOR'S HAMMER!  
GIVE UP THIS USELESS  
BATTLE, OR I STRIKE!

GO FLY A KITE,  
CURLYLOCKS!  
YOU'RE TOO SQUARE  
TO SCARE ANYONE!



BUT THEN, JUST AS THE ENRAGED THUNDER GOD  
CAN CONTAIN HIS FURY NO LONGER...

THERE IS NO NEED FOR  
THAT, THOR! THEY HAVE  
NOT DEFIED YOU-- I  
HAVE!

A VOICE! SPEAK-  
ING IN MY BRAIN!  
AND YET-- IT COMES  
NOT FROM ASGARD!  
WHAT SORCERY IS  
THIS???



THE SECONDS FLY BY AS THE FABULOUS XAVIER, NO LONGER FORCED TO PARRY LUCIFER'S THRUSTS, FINALLY EXPLAINS THE ENTIRE SITUATION TO THE IMMORTAL AVENGER...

SO YOU SEE, WE HAD TO STOP YOU FROM ATTACKING LUCIFER!

YOUR MESSAGE HAS THE UNMISTAKABLE RING OF TRUTH! YOU HAVE ACTED WISELY, X-MAN!

AND, FROM WHAT YOU HAVE TOLD ME, YOUR SKILL IS NEEDED MORE THAN OUR STRENGTH IN THE HOURS THAT REMAIN!

THE FIGHT IS ENDED, ICEMAN! YOU WILL HAVE NO FURTHER NEED TO SHIELD YOURSELF FROM THOR!

WHEW! LUCKY FOR ME! HE SMASHED MY INTENSIFIED ICE AS THOUGH IT'S A THIN PANE OF WINDOW GLASS!

AND SO, THE UNWARRANTED BATTLE COMES TO AN UNCONCLUSIVE END!

AVENGERS -- ASSEMBLE!

HIS ARMS ARE OUTSTRETCHED! THAT'S OUR SIGNAL TO END HOSTILITIES!

HMM-- SOUNDS IMPORTANT!

IT TAKES THE THUNDER GOD BUT A MOMENT TO CUE THE OTHERS IN, AND THEN...

I VOTE WE ALLOW THE X-MEN TO DEAL WITH THEIR Foe IN THEIR OWN MANNER! ALL IN FAVOR SIGNIFY AYE!

I STAND WITH THOR-- BUT I VOTE WE MAKE IT UNANIMOUS!

SO BE IT! AYE!

WELL, LITTLE ONES, IT SEEMS WE'VE TRAVELED CLEAR ACROSS THE ATLANTIC ONLY TO BLUNDER INTO SOMEONE ELSE'S FIGHT!

BETTER FALL IN BEHND CAP THOR! YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED! IT'S HIS TURN TO BE GROUP CHAIRMAN FOR THE WEEK!

THEY MAKE ME REALIZE THAT HUMANITY IS WORTH DEFENDING.

IT WASN'T ALL A WASTE! I DID GET TO MEET THAT DREAMY ANGEL!

AWWW, I'M WASTING MY TIME-- AS USUAL! HANK IS TOO SMART TO ACT JEALOUS!

TOO BAD GOLDBLOCKS BROKE IT UP SO SOON! I WAS JUST GETTIN' WARMED UP!

DREAM ON, BOBBY! BY NEXT WEEK, YOU'LL HAVE YOURSELF CONVINCED THEY WERE ALL BEGGING FOR MERCY JUST BEFORE THE FIGHT ENDED!

LET'S DISPENSE WITH THE POST MORTEM, COLLEAGUES! CYCLOPS IS CALLING US!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



# STAMPS

# SHOP BY MAIL

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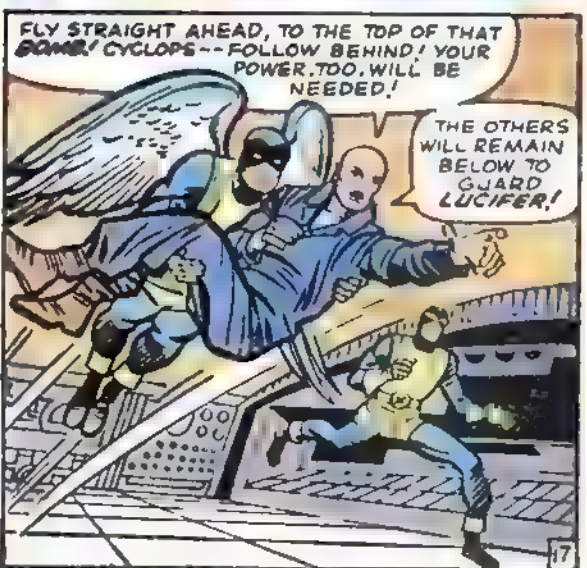
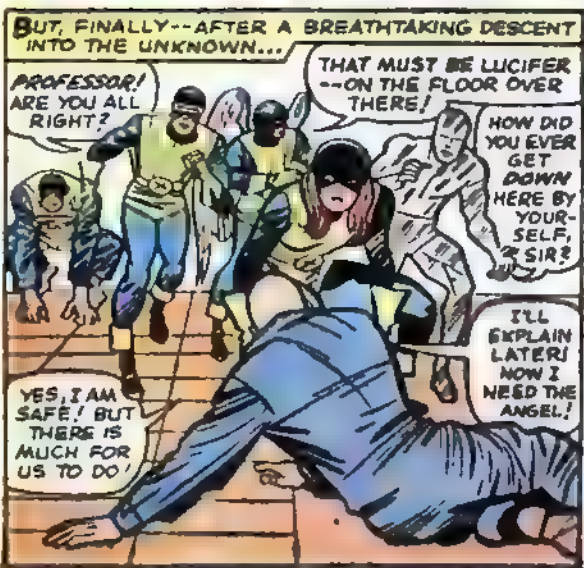
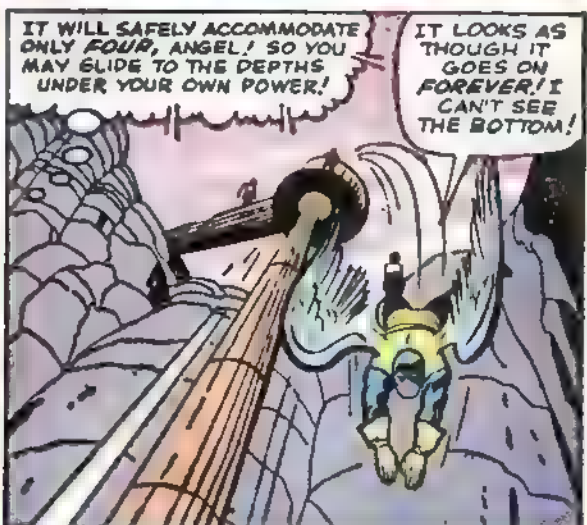
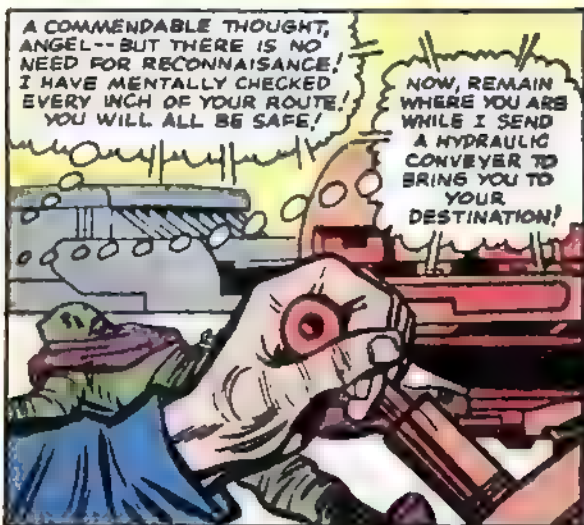
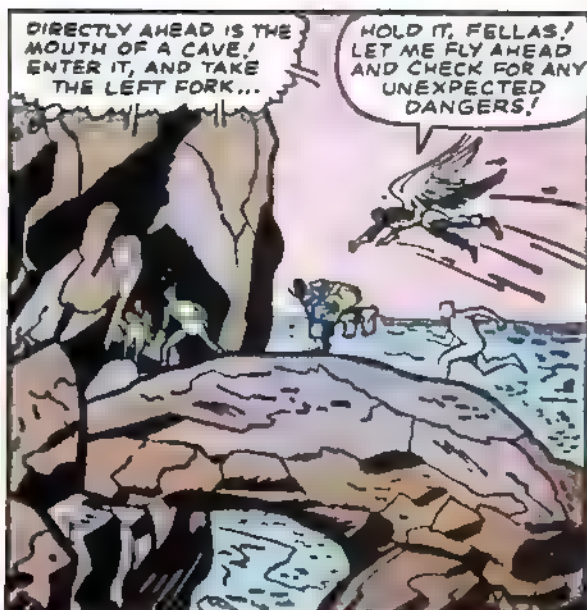
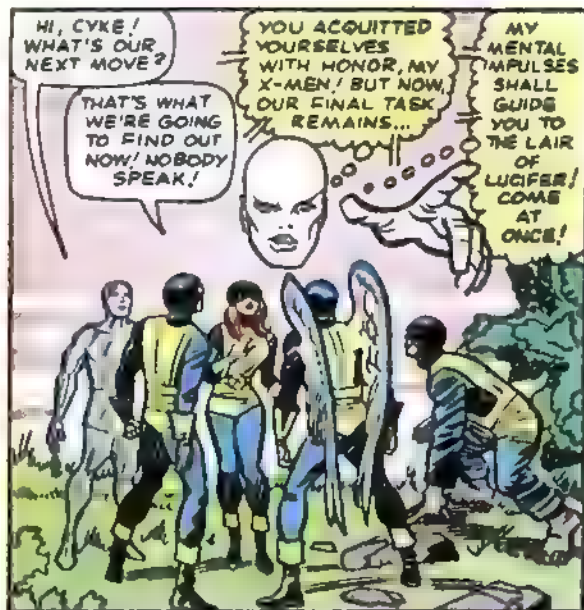
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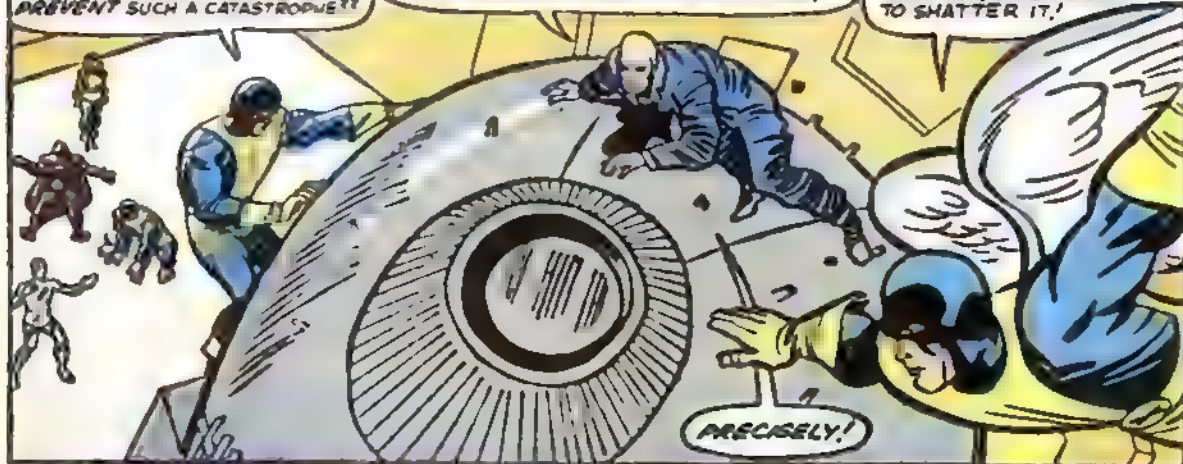


WHILE ASCENDING TO THE TOP OF THE BOMB, THE PROFESSOR BRIEFS HIS X-MEN AS TO THE PROBLEM THAT FACES THEM, AND THEN...

SO, IF ANYTHING CHANGES OR STOPS LUCIFER'S HEARTBEAT, THE BOMB WILL EXPLODE! THEN, WHAT CAN WE DO TO PREVENT SUCH A CATASTROPHE??

WE MUST REMOVE THE FUSE! BY SHEER MENTAL PROWESS, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO LOCATE IT—BUT MY THOUGHTS ALONE ARE NOT POWERFUL ENOUGH TO AFFECT A LIFELESS OBJECT OF THAT SORT!

I THINK I SEE WHAT YOUR PURPOSE IS, PROFESSOR! YOU'LL FIND THE FUSE—AND THEN CYCLOPS WILL USE HIS POWER BEAM TO SHATTER IT!



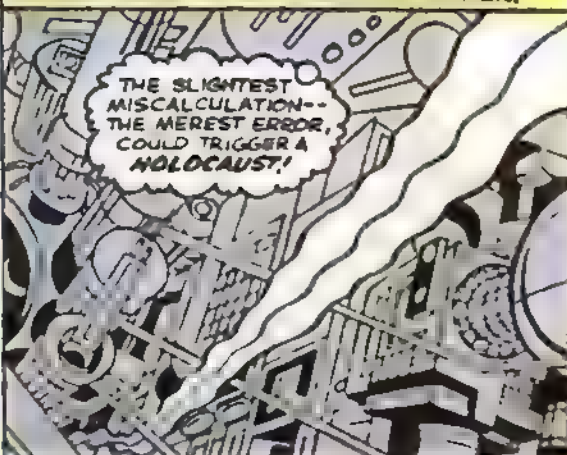
AND SO, THE CRUCIAL PROJECT BEGINS...

HAVE YOU DETECTED IT YET, SIR?

DO NOT SPEAK! I MUST CONCENTRATE ON NOTHING BUT THE TASK AT HAND!



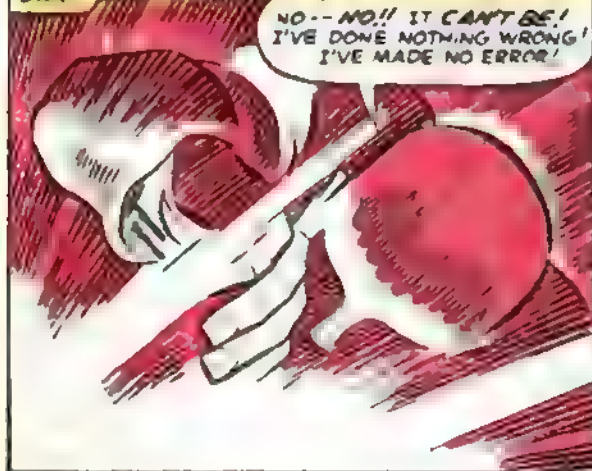
DOWN, DOWN, DOWN--INTO THE VERY HEART, THE VERY INNERMOST CORE OF THE GIGANTIC EXPLOSIVE DEVICE PROBES THE SUPER-POWERFUL MUTANT BRAIN OF THE BRILLIANT XAVER!



THE SLIGHTEST MISCALCULATION--THE MEREST ERROR, COULD TRIGGER A HOLOCAUST!

THEN, SUDDENLY, THE BOMB BEGINS TO THROB AS THOUGH MYSTICALLY ENDOWED WITH A LIFE OF ITS OWN.

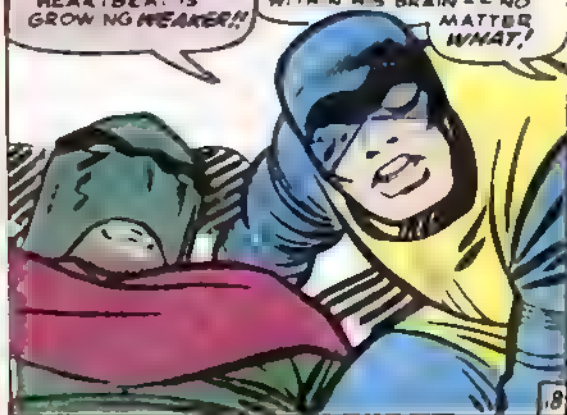
NO--NO!! IT CAN'T BE! I'VE DONE NOTHING WRONG! I'VE MADE NO ERROR!



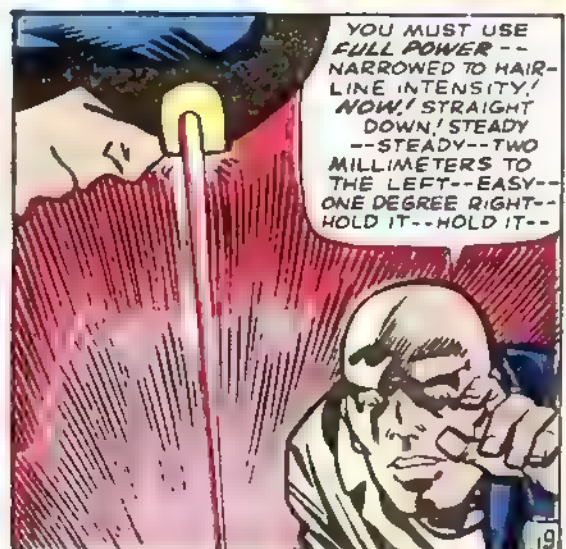
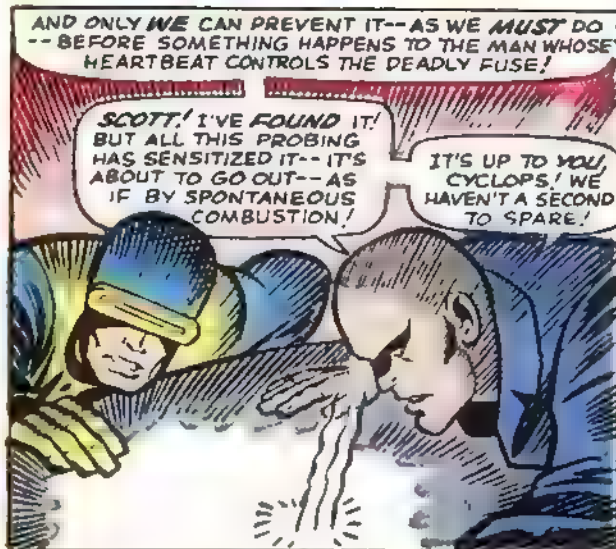
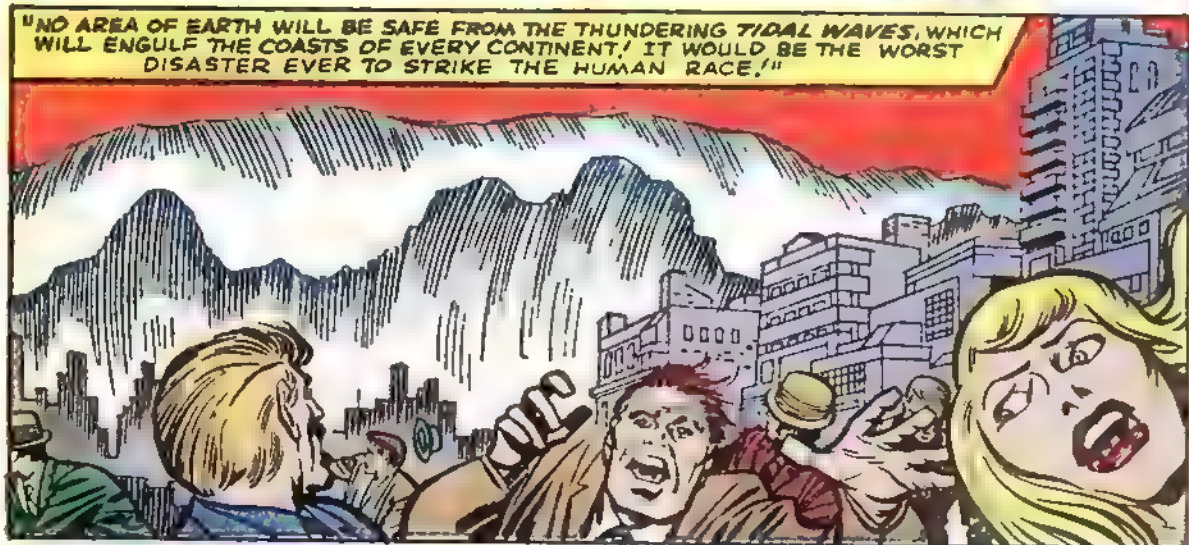
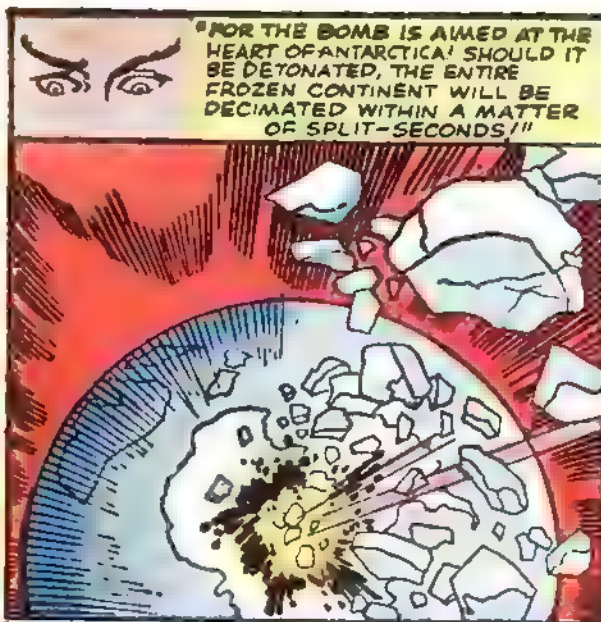
BUT NEXT HE HEARS...

PROFESSOR! IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT! IT'S LUCIFER! HIS HEARTBEAT IS GROWING WEAKER!!

OF COURSE! BY CONCENTRATING SO HARD ON THE BOMB, I LOST CONTROL OF HIM! I MUST LEAVE A PORTION OF MY THOUGHTS WITHIN HIS BRAIN--NO MATTER WHAT!



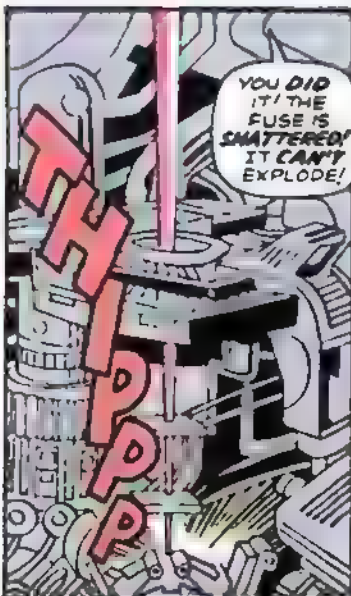






EVEN AS THE TWO X-MEN BREATHLESSLY COMBINE THEIR POWERS, THE DEADLY GIGANT BOMB BEGINS TO HEAVE AND THROB ABOUT TO PERFORM THE UNTHINKABLE MISSION IT WAS DESIGNED FOR AS THE STRAIN GROWS GREATER AND GREATER...

STAY CALM-- IT'S NOW OR NEVER! YOU MUSTN'T QUIVER-- THE FUSE IS DIRECTLY BELOW! JUST A FEW INCHES FURTHER-- STEADY--DON'T ALTER THE INTENSITY--NOW!!



YOU DID IT! THE FUSE IS SMATTERED! IT CAN'T EXPLODE!

THIS HAS BEEN YOUR MOST GLORIOUS MOMENT SCOTT! THOUGH MANKIND MAY NEVER KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE DONE THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE OWES YOU AN ETERNAL DEBT!

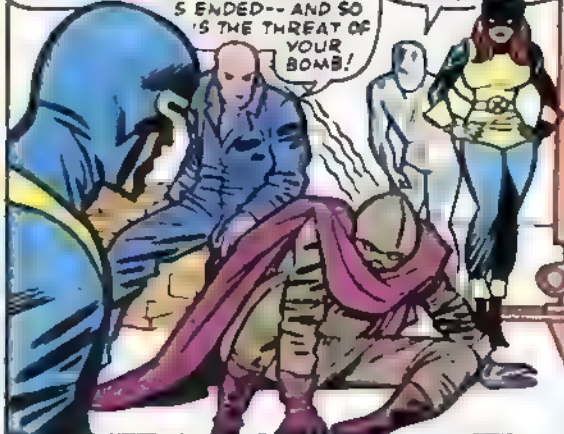
BUT MINE WAS MERELY THE TOOL SIR! YOURS WAS THE BRAIN, THE GUIDING GENIUS THAT ACCOMPLISHED THE IMPOSSIBLE!

BE THAT AS IT MAY-- WE MUST RETURN TO LUCIFER NOW!



AND GO... BY RELEASING CONTROL OF HIS BRAIN, HE SHALL RETURN TO NORMAL AGAIN! RISE, LUCIFER! THE EPISODE IS ENDED-- AND SO IS THE THREAT OF YOUR BOMB!

HE SURE LOOKS MEAN-- WHAT I CAN SEE OF HIM!



IT TOOK ME TEN YEARS TO CONSTRUCT THAT DEVICE-- AND YOU'VE DESTROYED IT WITHIN MINUTES! THIS EVENS OUR SCORE NOW, XAVIER! BUT, NEXT TIME WE MEET-- THE FINAL DECISION SHALL BE MINE!

NO, LUCIFER-- THE SCORE IS NOT YET EVEN!

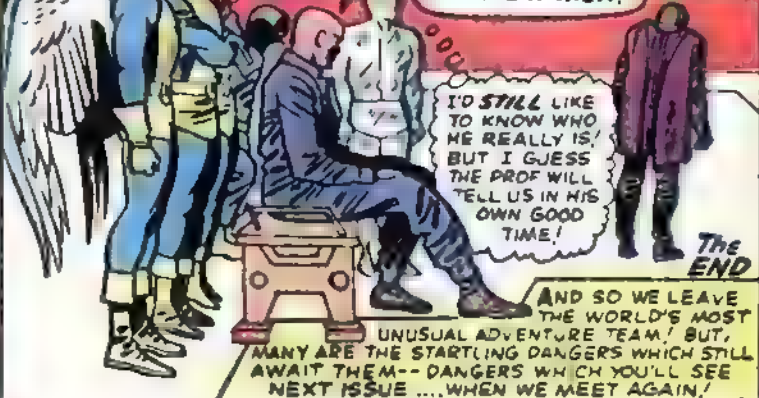


YOU HAVE MERELY SEEN A DIABOLICAL SCHEME GO UP IN SMOKE! BUT I HAVE BEEN DEPRIVED OF THE USE OF MY LEGS ALL THESE YEARS, DUE TO YOU! OUR ACCOUNT IS NOT YET SETTLED. AND NOW-- GO!

THEN WHY AM I NOT HARMED? WHY AM I FREE TO LEAVE?



BECAUSE WE X-MEN ARE PLEDGED NEVER TO CAUSE INJURY TO A HUMAN BEING --NO MATTER WHAT THE PROVOCATION! IT IS ENOUGH THAT YOU HAVE BEEN DEFEATED, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YOUR EVIL CAREER! IT IS ENOUGH THAT YOU WILL ALWAYS KNOW THAT NO PLACE ON EARTH IS TOO REMOTE TO ESCAPE THE RETRIBUTION OF-- THE X-MEN!



I'D STILL LIKE TO KNOW WHO HE REALLY IS, BUT I GUESS THE PROF WILL TELL US IN HIS OWN GOOD TIME!

**The END**

AND SO WE LEAVE THE WORLD'S MOST UNUSUAL ADVENTURE TEAM! BUT, MANY ARE THE STARTLING DANGERS WHICH STILL AWAIT THEM-- DANGERS WHICH YOU'LL SEE NEXT ISSUE... WHEN WE MEET AGAIN!



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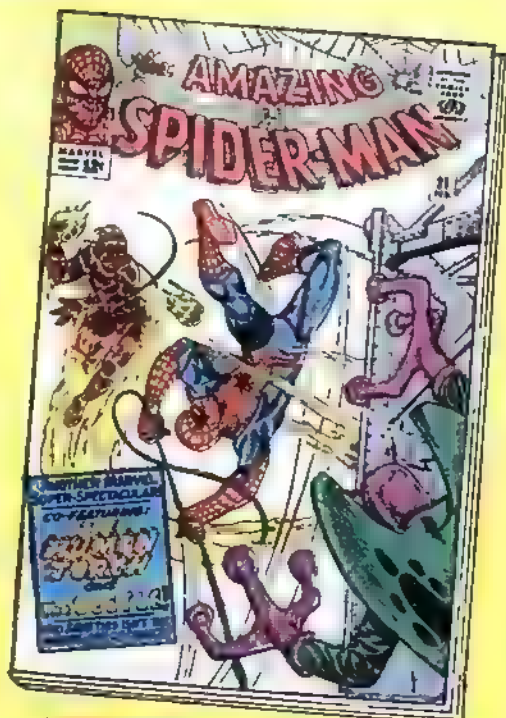
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# Let's visit the **X-MEN**

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Dear Stan and Jack,

There's just something about reading one of your 'upper' mags (F.F., S-MAN, X-MEN, AVENGERS, S. FURY, DAREDEVIL) that reminds you of a four-course meal. Look at it this way: for an appetizer you find yourself staring at a cover that is not quite like anything found on the market! Since it looks like it would put an advertising agent using the front page of the N.Y. TIMES to shame, you feel that you want to buy the comic, if only to read some more swaggin' 'advertising.' For the second course, there's always the first few pages of Stan Lee humor (in the case of the Avengers, forget it!) which sets the stage for the 'meat' of the story. After a small introduction you embark upon a dish of excitement unrivaled anywhere. All the while, somebody's cracking jokes, which adds a refreshing break in the harmony (kinda' like a hiccup!) You finish off with a dessert—known as a lettercol in fandom. And you know what? I've never gone away hungry! But now, to business—I, for one, believe that you have definitely overworked the Evil Mutants! A good writer is supposed to be able to introduce new villains as well as developing those he already has. I've also been noticing many 'returns' in Spidey and the F.F., and I sincerely hope that the Masters of Evil don't follow this trend. It's my theory that a villain (or group of villains) should not appear more than once every 7-1/4 issues. This means that the Evil Mutants are all set for the next 25 issues! So, give us "love those loners" fans a chance and let 'em fight Doc Doom or somebody, O.K.?

Paul Bakulski, 4 Waddell Road  
Manchester, Conn.

*Exactly seven and a half issues between villains, eh, Paul? What do you do, pal, make your decisions with a slide rule? Anyway, let's wait till we get another opinion or two—okay!*

Dear Stan and Jack,

I don't usually write to comic mags, but I had to tell you what I think of X-MEN #7. Personally, I always preferred Angel when it came to action, color, and leadership. But, even I admit that Cyclops is the one to lead in Prof's absence! I think one of the reasons I always overlooked Cyclops was his seriousness. He never smiled or enjoyed life like the other X-Men. They take a break once in a while, but not ol' stone face! He acts as if the world were going to end in a minute! Well, in #7, you showed why he's it and wrote a terrific story besides. Congratulations and lots of luck to you poor, slave-driven guys in the 'bull-pen'!

Christine Austin, 763 West North Street  
Lime, Ohio

*Much obliged, Chris. But now you've got us worried! Maybe the world IS gonna end in a minute, and Cyclo just doesn't wanna tell us!*

Dear Stan and Jack,

Even though I'll probably be in the minority on this argument, I agree with reader Jim Rossow that the X-Men should have separate costumes. It seems that the costumes of Magneto, Scarlet Witch, and even Quicksilver are much more attractive than the X-Men's dull garb. Please keep Professor X a minor (very minor) character from now on. I've been waiting quite impatiently for you to ease him off the scene, so that the X-Men would have to rely on their own wits and powers, instead of Professor X's magnificent brain. Cyclops is the ideal choice for the X-Men's deputy leader. Per-

sonally, I like the headgear that Marvel Girl wore in issue #6 much better than her new apparel. By the way, this X-Men fan is getting a little sick of Magneto and his Evil Mutants. How about giving the X-Men a fun and decisive victory next ish, huh? This brings me to my next point: 'Should Quicksilver and Scarlet Witch be inducted into the X-Men?' I say, yes and no! First, after the final defeat of Magneto, in which QS and SW should help overwhelm the magnetic mutant and his two allies, then let them join as special or honorary members. Then you should space their appearances about every three issues or so and use them only when the situation demands it. This may sound strange, but there is no great need to make the X-Men a monthly. Stan and Jack must be terribly overworked as it is now. One parting comment: the Chic Stone inking is far superior to any other, and remember, it's the inker who either 'makes' or 'breaks' the strip.

Donald D. Ensign, 1280 E. Bakerview Rd.  
Bellingham, Wash. 98225

*Boy! You guys and gals out there in the normal world sure have definite opinions! The only way to please you all is to publish a few different X-MEN mags—but we're even having trouble turning out this ONE! Oh well, maybe we'll just chuck the whole thing and join Magneto—if the Scarlet Witch promises to hang around!*

Dear Stan and Jack,

Issue #7 is definitely the best X-MEN ever published, and it always will be (until next issue). Cyclops was the only possible choice for group leader. I do hope that Prof. X will make frequent guest appearances in your other mags. Jean's new headpiece is much better than her old one, and Iceman looks better without his boots. I feel that Wanda and Pietro should leave Magneto and join the X-Men. They aren't really bad. If Wanda could save Magneto's life in some way, she and Pietro could leave the Evil Mutants. There is a question whether Magneto and his mutants should be featured more or less often. I would like to see more new mutants, whether good, evil, or indifferent. After all, not all mutants except the X-Men are evil, are they? But now that Magneto has come out into the open in his war against the Homo Sapiens, every time a new mutant appeared, he would naturally try to win him to his cause. So it seems that the appearance of Magneto and his mutants is inescapable, no matter who the X-Men fight. I hope X-MEN soon becomes monthly. Please have more X-Men pinups, they're great!

William Bailey, 11675 Mortenview  
Layor, Michigan

*Okay, Bill! You made so many points that we don't know which to comment on—but we have enough that our X-Men X-men X-trouers all have plenty to say on these pages in future issues. So, tail them—face front!*

Dear Stan and Jack,

From their very first appearance, I have considered the X-Men the most original, and possibly the best, of the MARVEL creations. Cyclops is the Prof's only logical successor. The Ange. is too much of a show-off, a glamor boy, while the Beast is a bit too grotesque for most readers to identify with. Cyclops, however, is gloomy and troubled like Reed Richards like Spider-Man, often regretting his awesome power. Serious and unmoved by most human emotions, he is the most mature of the bunch and a true mutant in his outlook on life. The X-Men should definitely keep their present

CONTINUED...



uniforms. Notice I said uniforms, not costumes. They do not wear costumes, their blue and gold is a badge of honor, a symbol that they and they alone are the mutants who fight on the side of humanity. Make no mistake, the X-Men are not like your other characters, who are very often nonchalant. They are involved in a grim and deadly battle, upon the outcome of which depends the future of the whole human race. Give Iceman back his boots, and remove that suggestion of shorts under his frosty coating. We don't want him to look like a cold Human Torch, do we? Besides, he's the only one who doesn't have at least a vestige of uniform to remind people that he is an X-Man.

Kenneth S. Gallagher, 1409 Spring Valley Terr.  
Huntington, W. Va., 25704

*Not only that—think how chilly he gets! Anyway, take a gander at our Special Announcements section for more about your comments, Ken.*

Dear Stan and Jack,

I'm one of those who would like to see lots more of Magneto's merry mutants. It's a bold new concept in comic magazine plots. The same band of characters appearing in, let's see, I think it's been four straight issues. You've fully developed each one's character. Keep 'em coming!

Steve Chapman, 330 Skokie Ln.  
Glencoe, Illinois

*Stevey, according to most of my mail, if we keep 'em coming, we'll end up with the most fully developed characters around—with no readers!*

Dear Stan and Jack,

You asked us fans to write and tell you about how we feel about Quicksilver and the Scarlet Witch joining the X-Men. I say it's a great idea! Those two are just too keen to be villains through and through. They could always jolt Magneto a little before they change sides. It's about time they realized they don't owe Magneto a thing. A few other evil mutants could turn up to take their places. I have one complaint—Toad's uniform. Can't you think up an outfit that's a little more revolting? His present one is much too good for such a nitwit. I also think that Sub-Mariner's just asking for someone to lay him low. He's a smarty! I'd like to see someone carve him down to size before it's too late. He'd be only half as big with all the conceit knocked out of him, but he could be a rather decent guy. Otherwise, keep up the good work!

Kathleen Neff, Ruth Hall, St. John's Academy  
Winfield, Kansas

*Hmmm! You're hitting kinda close to home with all that talk of knocking the conceit out of nautical Namor. A lot of frantic fans have been saving Stan and Jack could use the same treatment! Anxious, maybe Namor isn't really so conceited—he might be covering up a feeling of insecurity because of those nutty little wings on his feet! But, thanks for adding to the general confusion, Kathy.*

Dear Stan and Jack,

As regards your poll concerning the omnipresent Quicksilver and his lovely sister, the Scarlet Witch, I feel, as do many other loyal Marvel fans, that Wanda and Pietro are not bad at all. I also feel that when their "debt" to Magneto is paid, they will do one of three things: 1. Return home and live out their lives in peace; 2. Fight crime by themselves in Europe; 3. Join the X-Men. Personally, I think Wanda and Pietro should return to Europe to begin a crime-fighting career there. I don't think they should join the X-Men, because when you add too many heroes to a fighting group, it tends to spoil the individuality of the members of the group. Quicksilver & Co. ought to be co-featured with an established hero like Spider-Man (not necessarily Spidey, but just any old super-duper Marvel hero). For me, your climb to fame (embodied in FANTASTIC FOUR Magazine) has no parallel. You started out on mediocrity, but under the watchful eyes of your dotting fans you have progressed to the point where you can finally claim the

distinction of putting out the top TEN "finest comic magazines in the world!" Keep up the good work!

Steve Brown, 227 King George Drive  
Manassas, Va.

*Sorry, Stevey. We can't answer you right now. We're too busy drying our eyes! Many thanks, fella!*

*We give up! Now that all our mags have letters pages, we get so much mail that we just can't send cards in answer to your letters any more! But, you know we're reading them—and that's what counts!*

#### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS SECTION:

—Well, there you have it! If you're like US, you're now more confused than ever! Anyway, here's the results of our nutty no-prize mail poll so far—

—The vote is about a thousand to one to KEEP Cyclops as the deputy leader of the you-know-who's! — But, your mail is about evenly divided on whether or not our merry mutants should have separate costumes! So, now we don't know what to do! (Which isn't unusual for us!) — Most of you want Professor X back, even if it's only on a part-time basis! — And BOY! Are you all sick of Magneto and his playmates! This is the biggest surprise of all to us, 'cause WE love 'em. (Which goes to show how much WE know!) So, we'll try not to use them too often from now on. (Which'll make jolly Jack happy—he's getting grey trying to remember their costumes!)

—One other thing—lots of you have asked us to give Iceman back his little booties, but our Human Popsicle tells us he'd rather keep them off because he can move faster without them—it's easier to slide on his icy feet. So, if you're still not satisfied, take it up with HIM!

—Finally, if you've been wondering what X-MEN #10 will be about—so have we! Because we haven't written it yet! BUT—we're gonna take all your ideas, suggestions, and gripes, mix them together, and see what comes out! We have a hunch it'll be another minor Marvel masterpiece!

#### A Line-Up Of Some Of The Marvelous Mags On Sale Right Now! THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST!

**FANTASTIC FOUR** #35 Leave it to the world's greatest mag to come up with another of the world's greatest new arch-foes! This ish has everything! The FF go to college! They fight Dragon Man! And they again face the deadly Diabol!

**SPIDER-MAN** #21 This is the one that everybody's been clamoring for! Watch the fur fly when Spidey and the Human Torch tangle with each other! And see the evil Beetle as he plans to destroy them both!

**AVENGERS** #12 America's mightiest super hero team finds itself battling one of the world's strangest menaces with the fate of all mankind hanging on the outcome! And guess who the two surprise villains are! Insuper X gets back into action!

**THOR** #112 All we have to tell you is—Thor fights the Hulk! It's the kind of action you want! written the way you like it, and drawn by jolly Jack Kirby, the action king himself! It's the greatest battle since the Hulk fought the Thing!

**STRANGE TALES** #129 This is really "villains month" at Marvel! This time the Torch and bashful Benjamin fight some baddies who call themselves "The Terrible Trio!"—and Dr. Strange is up against a newie named Tiboro who sees as looke as he sounds.

**SUSPENSE** #62 This is it at last! The startling, long-awaited Origin of the Mandarin! And wait till you see how Iron Man escapes or Mandy this time! As for Captain America, the poor guy is trying to stop a jailbreak singlehanded! And, if anybody can do it—!

**ASTONISH** #64 See Giant-Man fight none other than Attuma, the sensational menace of F.F. #33! This is a different type of thriller for high-pockets and the wonderful Waspi! Meanwhile, the Hulk is again attacked by the mysterious Leader and his horde of humanoids! No wonder he goes on a rampage!

**SGT. FURY AND HIS YOU-KNOW-WHO'S** #14 This one's a block-buster! For the first time, Fury and his happy heroes go up against a deadly blitzkrieg squad specially trained to destroy the Howlers! It's a trap that only Baron Strucker could devise, and Fury's men are charge right into it! Wow!

—Now we'll sign off, because we know you're in a mad rush to mail the coupon which will make you a full-fledged Merry Marcher—and we don't want ANYTHING to delay you! See ya at the next parade!



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— says N.J. FLEMING — YUBIWAZA MASTER

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EASY — And I am now ready to show you, too, through clear, easy-to-understand photos, every secret. I guarantee to make you a YUBIWAZA specialist in hours — or every cent you paid will be refunded. You don't have to attend my school where I train beginners like you and turn them into experts. Now I can show you how to practice YUBIWAZA in the privacy of your own home with only a few minutes of practice a day. I'll show you how to defend yourself against hoodlums, bullies, "wise guys" and juvenile delinquents who respect neither lives nor property. When you apply YUBIWAZA methods, you can cut an aggressor down with JUST ONE FINGER! You can disarm an opponent rushing you with his fists, a broken bottle, a revolver or any kind of bludgeon. You can turn an aggressor's attack into your advantage with only one finger or your bare hands. No matter how "hot" the action gets, YUBIWAZA keeps you "on top." You can apply simple pressure of your finger against any one of a dozen or more vital nerve centers of your opponent and watch his gun or knife fall from his limp hand while he himself sinks to the ground completely helpless and faint. If the neighborhood bully pushes you, you

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says Yoshie Imanami — Pretty Japanese wife of N.J. Fleming — YubiWaza Master



can make him say "uncle" quickly — with the help of YUBIWAZA! **MASTER EVERY SITUATION!**

Make no mistake! The world is crowded with anti-social enemies who think nothing of sticking a knife into the ribs . . . or attacking peace-loving citizens just for the fun of it . . . or molesting boys and girls shamelessly. There is a crying need for a system of self-defense that relies on KNOWLEDGE, not big muscles or strength . . . that depends on TECHNIQUE — not on weight or size of body . . . that is based on simple TRAINING — not on illegal possession of weapons.

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**BECOME A NEW MAN!**

Knowledge of YUBIWAZA will turn you into a NEW MAN even if you never actually have to use it! For you will become SELF-ASSURED through your ability to handle yourself. You will walk with a deter-

mined and confident air secure with the knowledge that NOTHING can frighten you . . . that you can deal with ANY man, ANY weapon, ANY situation — and that you can do all this with NO bodily contact! And this will win respect and admiration from everyone.

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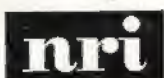
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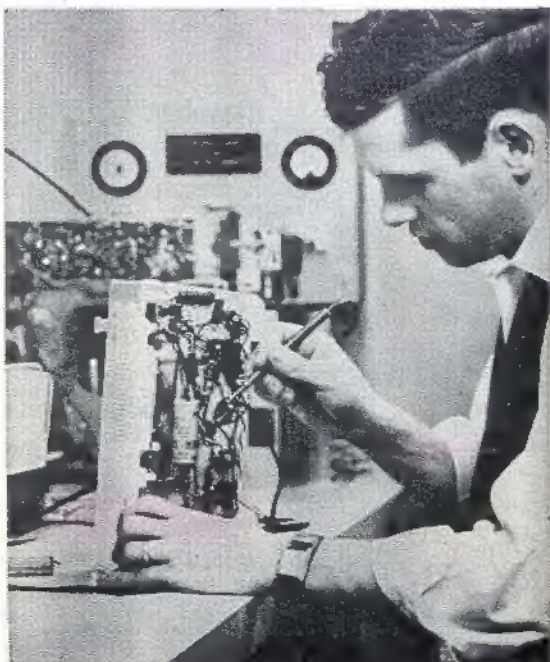
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